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1
                 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
              FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
 2
                       EASTERN DIVISION
 3
     IN RE: NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION Case No. 1:17-MD-2804
     OPIATE LITIGATION
                                          MDL NO. 2804
                                          Hon. Dan A. Polster
     APPLIES TO ALL CASES
 5
 6
 7
 8
           HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO FURTHER
                    CONFIDENTIALITY REVIEW
 9
        VIDEOTAPED
10
        DEPOSITION OF: RICHARD CHAPMAN
                       December 18, 2018
11
        DATE:
12
        TIME:
                       9:37 a.m. to 3:04 p.m.
13
                       201 North Franklin Street
        PLACE:
                       Suite 3400
14
                       Tampa, Florida
15
16
        PURSUANT TO: Notice by counsel for
                       Plaintiffs for purposes of
                       discovery, use at trial
17
                       or such other purposes
                       as are permitted under
18
                       the Ohio Rules
                       of Civil Procedure
19
20
        BEFORE:
                       LISA A. SIMONS-CLARK, RMR, CRR
                       Notary Public, State of
                       Florida at Large
21
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25
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1 APPEARANCES: 2 MARK P. PIFKO, ESQUIRE Baron & Budd, P.C. 3 15910 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 1600 Encino, California 91436 4 (818) 839-2333 5 - and -	STREAMING APPEARANCES, CONTINUED JAY LICHTER, ESQUIRE Baron & Budd, P.C. 15910 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 1600 Encino, California 91436 (818) 839-2333
 WILLIAM G. POWERS, ESQUIRE Baron & Budd, P.C. 600 New Hampshire Avenue NW The Watergate, Suite 10-A Washington, DC 20037 (202) 333-4562 Attorneys for Plaintiffs and PEC 	5 STERLING CLUFF, ESQUIRE 6 Baron & Budd, P.C. 15910 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 1600 7 Encino, California 91436 (813) 839-2333
Attorneys for Plaintiffs and PEC ELISA P. McENROE, ESQUIRE Morgan Lewis & Bockius, LLP 1701 Market Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2921 (215) 963-5917 - and -	SCOTT SIMMER, ESQUIRE 9 Baron & Budd, P.C. 600 New Hampshire Avenue NW 10 Washington, DC 20037 (202) 333-4562 11 EMMA KABOLI
KELLY A. MOORE, ESQUIRE JOHN M. MALOY, ESQUIRE Morgan Lewis & Bockius, LLP 101 Park Avenue New York, New York 10178 (212) 309-6612	12 LITIGATION PARALEGAL Baron & Budd, P.C. 13 GRETCHEN KEARNEY 14 LITIGATION PARALEGAL Baron & Budd, P.C.
Attorneys for Rite Aid and Richard Chapman MICHAEL S. VITALE, ESQUIRE BakerHostetler 200 South Orange Avenue Orlando, Florida 32801 (407) 649-4083	15 16 ALSO PRESENT: 17 Jeff Fleming, the videographer 18 Willow Ashlynn, Trial Tech 19
Attorney for Cardinal Health APPEARANCES VIA TELEPHONE AND STREAM GRETCHEN M. CALLAS, ESOUIRE	INDEX 20 PAGE DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PIFKO CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. McENROE 19
Jackson Kelly, PLLC 500 Lee Street East, Suite 1600 Charleston, West Virginia 25301 (304) 340-1169 Attorney for AmerisourceBergen	CERTIFICATE OF OATH 197 23 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 198 ERRATA SHEET 199 24 25
Page 3 APPEARANCES VIA TELEPHONE AND STREAM DANIEL B. MULLEN, ESQUIRE Marcus & Shapira, LLP 301 Grant Street One Oxford Centre, 35th Floor Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219 (412) 338-5202 Attorney for HBC Service Co. JOANNE CACERES, ESQUIRE Jones Day 77 West Wacker Chicago, Illinois 60601 (312) 782-3939 Attorney for Walmart ALEJANDRO BARRIENTOS, ESQUIRE Covington & Burling, LLP One City Center	Page 5 INDEX, CONTINUED (ATTACHED TO THE TRANSCRIPT) EXHIBITS MARKED RITE AID CHAPMAN 1 - Rite_Aid_OMDL_0020412 87 RITE AID CHAPMAN 2 - Rite_Aid_OMDL_0038075 to 77 113 RITE AID CHAPMAN 3 - Rite_Aid_OMDL_0014948 to 51 122 RITE AID CHAPMAN 4 - Rite_Aid_OMDL_0024619 to 622 129
11 850 Tenth Street, NW Washington, DC 20001 12 (202) 662-6000 Attorney for McKesson 13 JOHN D. LOMBARDO, ESQUIRE Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, LLP 777 South Figueroa Street, Suite 4400 15 Los Angeles, California 90017 (213) 243-4000 Attorney for Endo and Par APPEARANCES VIA STREAM: ALEXANDRA K. HUGHES, ESQUIRE Blasingame Burch Garrard Ashley, P.C. 440 College Avenue, Suite 320 Athens, Georgia 30601 (706) 744-4135 21 NOAH RICH, ESQUIRE Baron & Budd, P.C. 22 600 New Hampshire Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20037 (202) 333-4562	RITE AID CHAPMAN 5 - Rite_Aid_OMDL_0024623 to 24636 134 9 RITE AID CHAPMAN 6 - Rite_Aid_OMDL_0040183 166 10 RITE AID CHAPMAN 7 - Rite_Aid_OMDL_0040184 to 198 166 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

	ighty confidential - Subject to	-	
	Page 6		Page 8
1	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now on the record.	1	some questions today.
2	My name is Jeff Fleming. I'm a videographer for	2	A. Okay.
3	Golkow Litigation Services. Today's date is	3	Q. Let's start by having you please state and
4	December 18, 2018. The time is 9:37 a.m.	4	spell your name for the record.
5	This video deposition is being held in Tampa,	5	A. My formal name is Richard Chapman.
6	Florida, in the matter of National Prescription	6	R-i-c-h-a-r-d, C-h-a-p-m-a-n, and I normally go by
7	Opiate Litigation, MDL No. 2084 (sic) for the	7	Rick.
8	United States District Court for the Northern	8	Q. Okay. And you understand that you are here in
9	District of Ohio, Eastern Division.	9	connection with a lawsuit concerning opioids; is that
10	The deponent is Rick Chapman. Will counsel	10	correct?
11	please identify themselves for the record?	11	A. I do.
12	MR. PIFKO: Good morning. Mark Pifko on	12	Q. Okay. You work at Rite-Aid?
13	behalf of Plaintiffs and the PEC from the law firm	13	A. I did.
14	of Baron & Budd.	14	Q. What are you retired now?
15	MR. POWERS: Will Powers from Baron & Budd.	15	A. I am.
16	MS. McENROE: Good morning. Elisa McEnroe	16	Q. All right. Before we get started, I want to
17	from Morgan, Lewis & Bockius on behalf of Rite-Aid	17	
18	and the witness; and together with me I have with	18	for the deposition your counsel went over them, but
19	my colleague me and my colleague Kelly Moore	19	let's just go over a couple of the high points before
20	and John Maloy.	20	we get started so we make sure we're all on the same
21	MR. VITALE: And Michael Vitale with the law	21	page here.
22	firm of BakerHostetler representing Cardinal	22	A. Okay.
23	Health.	23	Q. Okay. So you see we have a court reporter
24	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Do we need counsel on the	24	here that's writing everything down that we're saying.
25	phone, too?		As a result of the fact that we're making a written
	Page 7		Dogg O
	_		Page 9
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1 THE WITNESS: I do.

- ² BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And that's a good point to note, that
- 4 from time to time counsel may -- various counsel in
- 5 here or on the phone may assert an objection. Unless
- 6 they instruct you not to answer, I'm still expecting an
- ⁷ answer to the question. Okay?
- A. Okay.
- 9 Q. And they'll be very clear if they're going to
- 10 be instructing you not to answer, I'm sure. And then
- 11 I'm going to be asking you about some events in the
- 12 past. I'm entitled to your best recollection or
- 13 estimate of what occurred in the past, but at the same
- time, I don't want you to guess.
- 15 So if you have absolutely no memory or ability
- 16 to say anything, then, you know, you can say that; but,
- 17 if you can have some sort of memory and you can give
- 18 your best estimate or recollection, I'm entitled to
- 19 that. Okay?
- A. I understand. 20
- 21 Q. Okay. And then if I ask you something and you
- 22 don't understand it, please let me know, and I'll try
- 23 to use language or rephrase the question in a way that
- 24 makes it so that you do understand. Okay?
- 25 A. Okay.

1 come back temporarily.

- Q. Did you -- so we're here in Tampa. I assume
- that's where you live now?
- A. I live in Madeira Beach, Florida --
- Q. Okay.
- A. -- which is in Pinellas County. 6
- Q. Okay.
- A. It's in the Bay Area here.
- Q. Okay. So did you have to leave this area to
- take that assignment in 2016 and 2017?
- 11 A. I maintained a home here and had a temporary
- 12 housing basically, an apartment, in the -- in the Camp
- 13 Hill area.
- Q. Okay. So you were physically located in Camp
- 15 Hill to perform the duties of that job?
- A. I was physically located in Camp Hill.
- Q. And then for your -- the time between June
- 2007 and July 2015, where were you physically located?
- 19 A. In Camp Hill. Again, we maintained a home
- 20 here, but I had a home in Camp Hill.
 - Q. What did you do before you joined Rite-Aid?
- 22 A. I worked for Eckerd Corporation and then for
- 23 Brooks Eckerd Corporation.
- Q. What was your tenure at the Eckerd
- 25 Corporation?

- A. I started at Eckerd Corporation in December
 - 2 1974.
 - Q. And then there was some sort of corporate
 - transaction between Rite-Aid and Eckerd?
 - MS. McENROE: Objection to form. You may
 - 6 answer.
 - THE WITNESS: No, not between Rite-Aid and
 - 8 Eckerd. By the time that transaction took place,
 - 9 Eckerd had been purchased by a company named
 - 10 Brooks. So the corporation was Brooks Eckerd at
 - 11 that time.
 - 12 BY MR. PIFKO:
 - Q. Okay. So do you have a memory of when the
 - transaction between Eckerd and Brooks occurred?
 - 15 A. 2004, I believe. The fall of 2004, I believe.
 - 16 Q. Okay. And then there was a transaction
 - 17 between Rite-Aid and Brooks, correct?
 - 18 A. Correct.
 - 19 Q. And what was the approximate time frame for
 - 20 that?
 - A. It closed in June of 2007. That's when I
 - joined Rite-Aid.
 - 23 Q. Did your job responsibilities change in any
 - way when -- well, what's your understanding of what the
 - nature of the transaction was between Rite-Aid and

- Page 11
- Q. But if you answer, I'm going to assume that
- 2 you do understand. Okay?
- A. Okay.
- Q. All right. So let's talk about your
- 5 employment with Rite-Aid. You -- when did you retire
- 6 from Rite-Aid?
- 7 A. I retired in July of 2015, and I did go back
- 8 to work for Rite-Aid for a -- for a temporary
- 9 assignment in 2016 and retired again or left again in
- 10 2017.
- 11 Q. Okay. When did you join Rite-Aid?
- 12 A. In June of 2007.
- Q. Let's talk for a second about this temporary 13
- 14 employment that you had. What -- do you remember
- 15 approximately the month when that started?
- 16 A. November of 2016.
- 17 Q. And then when did you end in 2017?
- 18
- 19 Q. What was the nature of that work?
- A. It was as the -- I'm trying to recall the job
- 21 title because it was an odd -- it was, like,
- 22 coordinating director of supply chain or something like
- 23 that. It was the position that had been held by my
- 24 former boss as senior VP of supply chain.
- 25 He had left the company, and they asked me to

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- 1 Brooks?
- 2 MS. McENROE: Objection. Form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Rite-Aid purchased Brooks Eckerd
- 4 Corporation.
- 5 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 6 Q. Okay. So did -- when Rite-Aid purchased
- 7 Brooks Eckerd Corporation, did your job
- 8 responsibilities change in any way?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. We'll -- we'll go through, I guess,
- 11 from the start of your time with the Eckerd
- 12 Corporation, the various positions that you held.
- 13 A. Okay.
- MS. McENROE: Objection. Form. Calls for a
- 15 narrative.
- 16 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 17 Q. So you started at the Eckerd Corporation in
- 18 December 1974, correct?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. What was your highest level of education at
- 21 that time?
- 22 A. Some college.
- Q. Where did you attend college?
- 24 A. Carnegie Mellon University.
- Q. When did you start going to Carnegie Mellon?

- 1 Q. Okay.
- 2 A. -- and so they renamed the college Eckerd
- ³ College because of the contribution that he had made.
- 4 Q. How long did you attend courses there?
- 5 A. It was an 18-month, perhaps, period, I would
- 6 say.
- Q. Was that something you did while you were
- 8 working, or did you have to take time off from work to
- 9 do that?
- 10 A. While I was working.
- 11 Q. What was your final degree that you got from
- 12 Eckerd College?
- A. Bachelor of Arts in Business.
- Q. And you attended some courses before that as
- 15 well?
- 16 A. I did.
- Q. Do you remember where?
- A. Valencia Community College in Florida -- in
- 19 Orlando and St. Pete College in St. Petersburg.
- 20 Q. Did you get any degrees or certificates or
- 21 anything from those universities?
- 22 A. I did not.
- Q. What was your first position at the Eckerd
- 24 Corporation?
- A. I was temporary Christmas help at the Orlando

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- 1 A. 1973.
- Q. And then did you stop attending courses when
- ³ you started working for the Eckerd Corporation?
- 4 A. No. No. I stopped courses at Carnegie Mellon
- ⁵ in December of 1973.
- 6 Q. Okay. Then about a year later you joined the
- 7 Eckerd Corporation?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Did you attend any college courses after you
- 10 joined the Eckerd Corporation?
- 11 A. I did.
- 12 Q. Okay. When was that?
- A. Oh, various times. Multiple occurrences in,
- 14 gosh, the late '70s, the early '80s, and then I
- 15 completed my degree work in the early 2000s.
- Q. So you have a degree from where?
- 17 A. Eckerd College.
- Q. Okay. Is that affiliated with the
- 19 corporation?
- A. No. it is not.
- Q. Okay. Just a coincidence?
- 22 A. It -- it was Florida Presbyterian College, and
- 23 it received a significant endowment from Jack Eckerd,
- 24 who had founded the corporation, the Eckerd
- 25 Corporation --

- 1 photo lab.
- Q. So I assume that was a very short-term
- 3 position?
- 4 A. The temporary part was.
- 5 Q. Okay. Then what did you do next?
- 6 A. Well, I worked -- continued to work in the
- 7 photo lab for a couple of years, and then I moved into
- 8 a distribution center that was also in Orlando.
- 9 Q. When did you start working at the distribution
- 10 center?
- 11 A. Late 1976, I believe.
- Q. How long did you work there?
- A. At that particular distribution center --
- 14 there was actually three different buildings or
- distribution centers in Orlando and all in one complex,
- and I worked among those three until 1980.
- Q. Did you have a specific job -- the same job
- 18 title during that time period?
- 19 A. I did not.
- Q. All right. Let's go through each of those.
- 21 When you first started working at the distribution
- 22 center, what was your job title?
- A. I was -- I loaded trucks. My job title was a
- 24 Material Handler B.
- Q. Okay. And how long did you have that

- 1 position?
- A. Several months. You know, less than a year I
- ³ would say, but several months.
- Q. And then what did you do?
- A. I became an order selector in the case goods
- picking department.
- Q. What were your responsibilities as an order
- selector?
- 9 A. We got orders from the stores of the items
- 10 that they -- that they wanted or needed for
- 11 replenishment that were sent out in bulk quantities,
- 12 either in full cases or in very -- you know, the items
- 13 themselves were bulky.
- 14 We fulfilled those orders, confirmed that we
- 15 had picked the items and packed them for delivery to
- 16 the store.
- Q. Did you have any involvement in picking
- controlled substances at that time?
- 19 A. I did not.
- 20 Q. And then what was your next position?
- 21 A. I was a group leader, which is -- was a -- an
- 22 hourly lead position in one of the departments in the
- distribution center.
- Q. What were your responsibilities as a group
- 25 leader?

- 1 things of that nature, and so I was the representative
- 2 from distribution on that team.
- Q. How long did you do that?
- A. Until 1982, I believe.
- Q. In connection with that work, did you do
- 6 anything related to controlled substances?
- A. Nothing directly related to controlled
- substances. I mean, the systems that were being
- designed ran the warehouses. So, you know, that
- ultimately involved controlled substances, but nothing
- 11 I directly did had anything to do with controlled
- 12 substances.
- 13 Q. And then what was your next position?
- 14 A. I was a supervisor in the Clearwater
- 15 distribution center.
- 16 Q. What was your responsibility as a supervisor?
- 17 A. You oversaw multiple departments within the
- distribution center, hired and fired, you know, hired
- and managed the workforce, made sure there was adequate
- staffing, and again, maintain the flow of work through
- the distribution center.
- 22 Q. How long did you have that position?
- 23 A. For just over a year.
- 24 Q. So from approximately 1982 to 1983?
- 25 A. Correct.
- Q. And then what did you do?
 - A. In 1983 I moved -- went to Hammond, Louisiana,

- to help open a distribution center there.
- Q. How long did you work there?
- A. One year.
- Q. What types of responsibilities did you have
- with respect to assisting them in opening that
- distribution center?
- A. I was an operate -- I had been promoted from
- supervisor to operations manager. So I was responsible
- 11 for some of the -- I had multiple supervisors work for
- me at that point. So I was responsible for the
- shipping and receiving departments and the support
- functions within the distribution center, like the
- forklift operations and things of that nature.
- 16 Q. Did the people under you have responsibility
- for shipping controlled substances?
- A. I was not responsible for the department that
- selected and packed controlled substances, but the
- trucks that were loaded did have controlled substances
- on them. So the forklift drivers, for instance, that
- moved product would have moved controlled substances,
- 23 yes.
- 24 Q. Okay. Where did you go next?
- 25 A. I then went to the Atlanta distribution

- Page 19
- A. To assign work to the associates in that
- 2 department, to maintain the flow of goods through the
- ³ distribution center.
- Q. Did you have any involvement with controlled
- 5 substances at that time?
- 6 A. I did not.
- 7 Q. So then in 1980 you stopped working at the
- distribution center; is that correct?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. And then where did you go?
- 11 A. I moved to the Eckerd corporate office in
- 12 Largo, Florida.
- 13 Q. What title did you take on then?
- A. I think the title was distribution systems
- 15 analyst, if I recall correctly.
- 16 Q. What was your -- what were your
- 17 responsibilities?
- A. Eckerd was putting together a team. They were
- 19 replacing their information systems that supported
- 20 accounting, merchandising, the distribution centers,
- 21 things of that nature; and Eckerd, as a part of that 22 project, put together a user team from each of the
- 23 functional areas so that -- and the assignment of that
- 24 user team was to help with testing, design, you know,
- 25 user -- human interface design and writing manuals and

- 1 center, which is actually in Newnan, Georgia, but we
- 2 commonly called it the Atlanta distribution center.
- ³ Q. What was your responsibility there?
- 4 A. I was also an operations manager, and so I was
- 5 over multiple departments, kind of similarly to in
- 6 Hammond, so --
- 7 Q. Did you have any responsibility for controlled
- 8 substances there?
- 9 A. I did have the pharmacy department in the
- 10 Newnan distribution center report to me as -- at one
- 11 time during that period of time that I worked for --
- Q. Okay. What was the period of time that you
- 13 worked there?
- 14 A. I was there from 1984 to 1989.
- Q. So some of the people under you were
- 16 responsible for picking controlled substances that
- 17 needed to be shipped to stores and fulfilling those
- 18 orders?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form. You may
- 20 answer.
- 21 THE WITNESS: During a portion of that
- five-year period -- we rotated responsibilities.
- There were two operations managers, and we kind of
- changed assignments; but during a portion of that
- 25 five-year period, yes, I was over the pharmacy

- Q. How long did you have that position?
- A. Well, that direct position I probably had for
- ³ three years perhaps and then -- probably three years.
- Q. So in approximately 1992 you moved to anotherposition?
- 6 A. Well, I -- I was promoted to a director level
- 7 position. My boss left that position, so I was
- 8 promoted into his job. So I still had the same
- ⁹ responsibilities, but my responsibilities then
- 10 expanded, so --
- Q. What was your title then?
 - A. Director of distribution systems and planning,
- 13 I believe.

12

15

- Q. How long did you have that position?
 - A. I was in that position through -- and it
- 16 ultimately got changed to be a senior director level
- position, but I was in that position through the time
- 18 that Eckerd's was sold to Brooks.
- So I was at the Eckerd corporate office until
- 20 that sale, that transaction was complete.
- Q. So that -- the Brooks and Eckerd transaction
- 22 occurred in 2004?
- A. Yes, I believe that's correct.
- Q. And then you had a change in responsibilities
- 25 at that time?

Page 23

- area, and yes, there were associates within the
- 2 pharmacy area that were responsible for picking
- and packing controlled substances to go to the
- 4 stores.
- 5 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 6 Q. Of the time period from 1984 to 1989, what was
- ⁷ the portion that you had responsibility for the
- 8 pharmacy operations?
- 9 A. Probably two of those five years, I would say.
- Q. Okay. Do you remember which of the -- of that
- 11 period, which two years?
- 12 A. It was the latter part of that period, so --
- ¹³ Q. So from 1987 to 1989?
- 14 A. Yes. Around that, I would say.
- Q. And then where did you go after 1989?
- 16 A. I returned to the Eckerd corporate office in
- 17 Largo, Florida.
- Q. What did you do there?
- 19 A. I think the job title was manager of
- 20 distribution systems and planning, if I recall
- 21 correctly; and the key responsibilities were the
- 22 budgeting and financial planning for the distribution
- 23 centers and to act as the liaison for systems
- 24 development and maintenance in the distribution
- 25 centers.

- A. Yes. Yes.
- Q. Okay. So what -- what was your new position

Page 25

- 3 in 2004?
- 4 A. Well, it was -- I think the job title was just
- 5 changed to senior director of logistics, and I remained
- 6 part of the Brooks Eckerd corporate office team, I
- ⁷ guess; and I had largely the same responsibilities that
- 8 I had had prior and also -- also had responsibility for
- 9 some transportation functions.
 - Q. How long did you have that position?
- 11 A. Until the Rite-Aid/Brooks transaction.
- 12 O. That was in 2007?
- 13 A. Yes.

- Q. So when Rite-Aid purchased the Brooks Eckerd
- 15 Corporation, you had a change in job responsibilities?
- 16 A. I did.
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 18 THE WITNESS: I did.
- 19 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. What was your job then?
- A. I became the general manager of the
- 22 Philadelphia distribution center.
- Q. How long did you have that position?
- A. About 16 months.
- Q. So to sometime in 2009?

Page 26 A. No, in 2008.

- 1
- Q. Okay. 2
- 3 A. Yeah, it was like from June of 2007 till the
- 4 end of September of 2008, I think.
- Q. Okay. What were your responsibilities as the
- 6 general manager for the Philadelphia distribution
- 7 center?
- A. It was overall responsibility for the
- 9 distribution center. So, you know, managing it,
- 10 staffing it, ensuring that we served our store
- 11 customers in the way that we did, maintaining flow of
- 12 products, meeting the financial responsibilities,
- 13 things of that nature.
- 14 Q. When you say "meeting the financial
- 15 responsibilities," what do you mean?
- 16 A. Well, I mean, we had a budget that we were --
- 17 as any company does; and so I was, you know, part of my
- 18 job was to make plans and to put the budget together
- 19 and then to achieve those, so --
- Q. Were you the top -- as the general manager of
- a distribution center, were you the top level person at
- 22 that distribution center?
- 23 A. I --
- 24 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 25 THE WITNESS: I was.

- 1 the -- a huge portion of the responsibility was 2 transportation related. I was responsible for both
- 3 inbound and outbound transportation to the stores.
- I also had responsibility for the financial
- planning activity, for the safety programs and safety
- management, system support, and regulatory compliance.
- Q. When you say "regulatory compliance," what do
- you mean by that?
- A. I mean there was a member of my team that was
- the person, the resource, that coordinated with the DCs
- to make sure that we were in compliance with
- regulations related to all pharmacy activities,
- controlled substances, things of that nature.
- 14 That individual coordinated both -- it was
 - kind of a liaison between the distribution centers and
- our corporate staff that acted as our subject matter
- experts for that.
- Q. What's the title of that regulatory compliance
- 19 person?
- 20 A. Director of -- it may have been director of
- 21 compliance. I don't recall, you know, specifically.
- 22 Q. During your tenure from 2008 to 2015, were
- 23 there multiple people that held that position?
- 24 A. There were.
- 25 Q. Do you remember any of their names?

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¹ BY MR. PIFKO:

- Q. So did you oversee people who had
- ³ responsibility for shipping controlled substances to
- 4 Rite-Aid pharmacies?
- A. I did not.
- Q. Okay.
- A. We did not have controlled substances in the
- 8 Philadelphia distribution center.
- 9 Q. Okay. What was your next position?
- 10 A. I went to the Rite-Aid corporate office.
- 11 O. So that was sometime in 2008?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. What was your job then?
- 14 A. The job title was vice president of logistics.
- 15 Q. How long did you hold that position?
- 16 A. Until I retired in 2015.
- 17 Q. Did you move through any iterations, like
- senior vice president or anything like that or you
- always stayed vice president?
- 20 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I stayed vice president.
- 22 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 23 Q. What were your job responsibilities as the
- 24 vice president of logistics?
- 25 A. During that time I was responsible for the --

A. The person in that position when I joined,

- 2 when I first went to the corporate office, was named
- 3 Kevin Mitchell. Subsequent to Kevin leaving, those
- 4 responsibilities were taken over by Chris Belli, and
- 5 after Chris left, the responsibilities were taken over
- 6 by an individual by the name of Kevin Peterson; and, of
- course, they changed dramatically because Rite-Aid quit
- carrying pharmaceuticals in the distribution centers.
- Q. Do you know who Rite-Aid's primary supplier of 10 controlled substances was?
- 11 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 12 THE WITNESS: I'm sure if you're talking about
- 13 in dollar value, it would have been McKesson. If
- 14 you're talking about unit volume, I couldn't
- 15 answer that because, you know, such a large
- 16 proportion of the pharmacy product are generics,
- 17 and there's a number of generic manufacturers.
- 18 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 19 Q. At various points in your tenure as vice
- president of logistics, did Rite-Aid purchase
- controlled substances directly from certain
- 22 manufacturers?
- 23 A. I don't know the answer to that.
- 24 Q. Okay. So you know that they -- that Rite-Aid
 - purchased controlled substances and other

- 1 pharmaceutical products from McKesson?
- 2 A. I do know that we purchased from McKesson,
- 3 yes.
- 4 Q. And then you just testified that you believe
- 5 that -- you mentioned generics and that maybe there
- 6 were other suppliers?
- A. There are other generic suppliers that we
- 8 purchased product from besides McKesson.
- 9 Q. Okay. Do you remember the names of any of
- 10 those?
- 11 A. You know, Teva is an example. I was not
- 12 involved in the purchasing side at all. So, you know,
- 13 our responsibility was more operational and executing
- 14 it in the distribution center. So I couldn't tell you,
- ¹⁵ quite honestly, who all of those were.
- Q. Okay. And that's okay. I was just asking for
- 17 your best recollection, so --
- 18 A. Yeah.
- Q. -- if you remembered any of the names, that's
- 20 all I'm asking.
- 21 A. As I said, Teva comes to mind. You know, I
- 22 can't remember any of the other ones explicitly --
- 23 specifically.
- Q. Did you ever meet with anybody from Teva?
- 25 A. I did not.

- liaison and coordinate activity at the
- distribution centers and to ensure compliance with
- all regulations to use as a resource with the
- 4 folks in the corporate office.
- 5 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And what I'm trying to get at is if,
- ⁷ when you say all regulations, if you're aware if that
- 8 included the Controlled Substances Act?
 - A. I am aware of that, yes.
- Q. Have you heard of the Controlled Substances
- 11 Act before?
- 12 A. Yes, I have.
- Q. When do you believe was the first time you
- 14 heard that?
- A. Many years ago. I -- I couldn't -- I'm sure I
- was working for Eckerd's at the time, so --
- Q. Do you have an understanding about what
- 18 diversion is?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 21 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Can you tell me what your understanding is?
- A. Diversion is when product is taken out of the
- 24 supply chain when it's diverted from its intended
- 25 target, its intended destination, its intended

- Q. How about McKesson, did you ever meet with
- 2 anyone from McKesson?
- 3 A. I was in meetings with McKesson about some
- 4 systems work later in my tenure there, but it wasn't
- ⁵ related to controlled substances. It was about a data
- 6 exchange basically, but -- but I never met with any of
- 7 them about purchasing or anything of that nature; but I
- 8 was -- I attended a meeting that -- that there were
- 9 McKesson people at.
- Q. So you mentioned that, among the
- 11 responsibilities of the regulatory compliance person
- 12 who was one of the people who reported to you -- well,
- 13 first of all, that's correct, that the regulatory
- 14 compliance person reported to you when you were the
- 15 vice president of logistics?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 17 THE WITNESS: That's correct.
- 18 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And so I believe you testified earlier
- 20 that among those responsibilities that the regulatory
- 21 compliance person had was the Controlled Substances
- 22 Act, correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: What I said was that there --
- 25 that individual's responsibility was to act as a

- Page 33
- 1 customer, to someone else in the supply chain.
- 2 Q. Have you ever heard of the idea that someone
- ³ is a registrant under the Controlled Substances Act?
- 4 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I have.
- 6 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Did you understand, when you were vice
- 8 president of logistics, that Rite-Aid was a registrant
- 9 under the Controlled Substances Act?
- 10 A. I did.
- Q. How did you come to have that understanding?
- 12 A. Well, the -- I'm familiar with the need for an
- 13 individual location to be a registrant, to have a DEA
- 14 registration number. So as a part of my knowledge in
- working in the chain drug industry as long as I did, I
- 16 know that every store and every distribution center is
- 17 registered, and it has a DEA registration number.
- Q. Have you ever heard of the phrase that a
- registrant has a duty to maintain effective controls to prevent diversion?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: I have heard that, yes.
- 23 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. When you were VP of logistics, did you
- 25 understand that locations that -- where Rite-Aid held a

21

Page 34 1 registration, that they had duties to maintain

- ² effective controls to prevent diversion?
- 3 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 4 THE WITNESS: I do understand -- or did
- 5 understand that, yes.
- 6 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the activities
- 8 that occurred at Rite-Aid locations to carry out that
- 9
- 10 MS. McENROE: Objection.
- 11 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. -- to maintain effective controls to prevent
- 13 diversion?
- 14 MS. McENROE: Object to form.
- 15 THE WITNESS: I am familiar with -- with it,
- 16 yes.
- 17 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. What is your understanding of what activities
- 19 were taken by Rite-Aid during the period when you were
- 20 VP of logistics in connection with the duty to prevent
- 21 diversion?
- 22 MS. McENROE: Object to the form. Calls for a
- 23 narrative. Can you break that down a little bit
- more, Mr. Pifko?
- 25 BY MR. PIFKO:

- 1 limitations on the pharmacist's ability to modify
- 2 those orders.
- 3 So again, there was very tight controls on the 4 orders that were placed that were sent to the
- 5 distribution centers. Once it arrived at the
- 6 distribution center, we had kind of a couple of
- 7 things that were what I would characterize as a
- 8 kind of a last line of defense or a final step in 9 that.

10 We had a threshold above which no order would

be filled, and we also had given the assignment 12 and responsibility of the order fillers in the

13 controlled substance area, because they were

14 familiar with kind of the general flow and size of

15 orders, if they saw something they thought was 16 unusual, they had the authority to stop the order

17 and adjust and/or call the store to confirm

18 whether the order had been, you know, entered 19 correctly or created correctly, regardless of

20 whether it met or exceeded the threshold that I

mentioned.

22 So there was multiple components in place to

23 manage that and to ensure that no product was 24

diverted.

25 BY MR. PIFKO:

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- Q. Do you understand the question? 1
- 2 A. I -- I do.
- 3 Q. Okay. Can you give me an answer?
- 4 MS. McENROE: Can you ask something a little
 - bit more specific?
- 6 MR. PIFKO: Well, I'd like to hear his answer.
- 7 THE WITNESS: I guess the first thing that I
- 8 would say is Rite-Aid is a closed system.
- 9 Rite-Aid shipped only to its own -- our
- 10 distribution centers only shipped to Rite-Aid
- 11 stores.

5

25

- 12 So as a part of that, in terms of ensuring
- 13 there was no diversion, we -- we knew both the
- 14 from and the -- you know, the origination and the
- 15 destination of every shipment was a Rite-Aid
- 16 location; and in terms of the quantity of those
- 17 orders, there were a variety of controls.
- 18 The orders were created not by a human. They
- 19 were system created based on actual sales at a
- 20 store, actual scripts that were filled and product
- 21 that was consumed at a store.
- 22 So there wasn't a -- there wasn't a capability
- 23 of someone just to place an unusually large order
- as a human to try to divert product. Pharmacists 24
 - were able to modify those orders, but there was

- Q. Okay. So let's -- let's break that out a
 - 2 little bit, and then I also want to ask you just before
 - 3 we do that, so you -- you held the -- I asked you to
 - 4 provide that answer in the time period of when you were

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- 5 VP of logistics, and so that was a fairly long time
- 6 period where you held that position.
- A. Yes.
- Q. So I want to ask you, was the explanation that
- 9 you just provided, was that the same process that was
- 10 used during your entire tenure as VP of logistics?
 - A. To the best of my knowledge, it was. I wasn't
- 12 responsible for the store ordering component of it, but
- 13 I know generally how it worked, but -- so to the best
- 14 of my knowledge, it was, yes.
- Q. Okay. So let's unpack some of the different
- 16 issues that you talked about. First, you said
- something about -- you were talking about how -- the
- 18 way in which orders were placed at the store and how it
- 19 was based on product that was sold. Can you -- do
- 20 you --

- 21 A. Well, actually -- I'm sorry.
 - MS. McENROE: Let him finish his question.
- THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Go ahead. 23
- 24 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 25 Q. Okay. Well, first of all, I just want to ask

- 1 if you have familiarity with how the orders were placed2 at a particular store.
- 3 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Okay. What I was going to say,
- 5 actually, the first thing I said was that Rite-Aid
- 6 was a closed system, that we only shipped to our
- own stores. So certainly that -- there's an
- 8 inherent level of control there that perhaps other
- 9 shippers don't have. So that was the first thing
- 10 that I said.
- In answer to your question, you're -- you're
- asking how was the inventory managed at the store,
- or can you clarify that?
- 14 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Yeah. And to be clear, I'm just asking about
- ¹⁶ controlled substances right now.
- 17 A. Okay. Can you repeat it then, please?
- Q. Yeah. And then let's also -- let me ask
- 19 another foundational question. Are you familiar that
- 20 under Federal law there's a scheduling of controlled
- 21 substances?
- 22 A. I am.
- Q. Okay. And you understand there's Schedule 1
- 24 through 5?
- 25 A. I am.

- 1 A. Okay.
- 2 Q. So it's your understanding that a lower
- 3 numbered scheduled substance is more prone to abuse

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- 4 than a higher number scheduled substance; is that
- 5 correct?
- 6 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: That would be my impression,
- 8 yes.
- 9 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. And then what's the basis for that
- 11 understanding?
- 12 A. The degree of control that's required for the
- 13 varying schedule levels and mandated by the DEA.
- Q. Have you ever read DEA regulations concerning
- 15 handling of controlled substances?
- 16 A. I have.
- Q. Okay. Have you ever read portions of the
- 18 Controlled Substances Act?
- 19 A. I may have. I -- I don't know for sure. I
- 20 can't say with certainty that I have. I know I have
- read the CFR, some portions of that, so --
- Q. What was the context in which you've read the
- portions of the CFR?
- A. When we've done work in distribution centers
- 25 to construct pharmacy areas and ensure that -- it was

- Q. Okay. And do you have an understanding about
- ² what the different levels are in the scheduling?
- 3 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes. I have an understanding
- 5 in -- and as you, I'm sure, know, Rite-Aid did not
- 6 ship Schedule 2 substances out of our distribution
- 7 centers.
- 8 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 9 Q. Okay. What's your understanding of the
- 10 differences in the scheduling? What's the difference
- between, for example, something that's a Schedule 2
- 12 versus a Schedule 3?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I -- my general understanding
- would be, I would expect that it's more
- susceptible to -- a Schedule 2 is more susceptible
- to abuse than a Schedule 3, but I don't know that.
- 18 I'm not a pharmacist, so --
- 19 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And that's -- all I'm asking you today
- 21 is to give your best ability to answer. So just --
- 22 A. Okay.
- Q. I'm not asking you to be an expert in
- 24 anything. If you know something, you tell me. If you
- 25 don't -- okay?

- 1 to ensure that the physical security aspects were met
- ² properly.
- Q. When you say "physical security," what do you
- 4 mean by that?
- 5 A. That it's kind of as a general statement, the
- 6 areas where you pick controlled substances have to be
- 7 contained within a cage, and there's, you know, some
- 8 specifications about the wire gauge and how big the
- 9 holes can be in the cage and things of that -- and the
- 10 fencing and things of that nature, so --
- Q. So let's go back to the -- the placing of an
- 12 order.
- 13 A. Okay.
- Q. When you were explaining to me the -- that
- 15 there were some sort of limitations on placing of
- orders, I'd like you to explain that, your
- 17 understanding of how an order was placed at a pharmacy
- 18 for -- you said that Rite-Aid didn't ship -- or it
- 19 didn't distribute Schedule 2 substances, so let's just
- 20 talk about Schedule 3 substances.
- 21 A. Okay.
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 23 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Let me just ask a better question. So my
- ²⁵ question to you is, with respect to Schedule 3

- 1 substances, do you understand how an order was placed
- 2 at a particular pharmacy location at a store to a
- ³ distribution center?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 5 THE WITNESS: My understanding is that for all
- 6 pharmacy products, it was a computerized ordering
- 7 system. They created an order based on the demand
- 8 for that item and the on-hand balance in -- in the
- 9 store; and the demand obviously is a function of
- 10 the sales or the -- and the use -- in the instance
- 11 of a pharmaceutical product, of its consumption
- 12 when filling scripts.
- 13 So it was a computerized algorithm that took 14 into account the on-hand balance and the rate of
- 15 sale for that product to calculate an efficient
- 16 order quantity.
- 17 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 18 Q. Okay. So there's a computer system at a
- 19 particular pharmacy location in the store. Yes?
- 20 A. Well, there's --
- 21 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 22 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. There's a mainframe
- 23 that actually -- you know, the computer was not --
- 24 did not reside at a -- at an individual store,
- 25 SO --

- 1 THE WITNESS: There is and was an IT
- 2 department that was responsible for maintaining
- both the hardware and the software.
- 4 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. And then just the IT department, is there any
- 6 other special name?
- A. No. No.
- Q. So under this system, the computer, the
- mainframe is looking at how much product is moving
- through the store and seeing the rate at which product
- is being taken off the shelves and comparing that to
- the inventory on hand and then automatically putting in
- an order so that you can ensure that the location has
- enough product to fulfill the demand; is that correct?
 - MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes. The goal was to ensure
- 17 that we satisfied our customers. I mean, it's
 - a -- it's -- you know, you can imagine it's -- the
- 19 key component of our business is to make sure that
- 20 we get the medications and the medicines in the
- 21 hands of our customers, so yes.
- 22 BY MR. PIFKO:

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- 23 Q. Okay. So an order through that system gets
- placed by a store to a distribution center, correct?
- 25 A. Correct.

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- ¹ BY MR. PIFKO:
- 2 Q. Okay.
- A. But the store connected to the computer
- Q. Okay. Is there a name for the software that
- 6 managed the ordering system, do you know?
- A. I would assume that there is, but I don't know
- 8 what it is.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. So --
- 11 Q. And it's your understanding that the mainframe
- 12 system was located somewhere centralized?
- 13 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. And was that same system used for all
- 15 the Rite-Aid stores?
- 16 A. That is my understanding, yes.
- 17 Q. Do you know where -- physically where that
- 18 system was located?
- 19 A. In Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, so -- or there --
- ²⁰ in the greater Camp Hill area. Maybe I should, you
- 21 know, be more precise with that, so --
- 22 Q. Is there a department or division of the
- 23 company that was responsible for maintaining that
- 24 process?
- 25 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.

- Page 45 Q. And are you familiar with the process by which
- 2 an order is received at a distribution center?
- 3 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: I am.
- 5 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And I want to be clear. I know you
- 7 had -- you were a general manager of several
- distribution centers. I'm just talking about Schedule
- 9 3 controlled substances right now. Okay?
- 10 A. Okay.

- 11 Q. So with respect to a Schedule 3 controlled
- substance, when an order comes in to a distribution
- center, how -- how does that happen?
 - MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 15 THE WITNESS: The distribution centers operate
- 16 on a type of software that's called -- the acronym
- 17 you will hear is a WMS. It stands for Warehouse
- 18 Management System; and the warehouse management
- 19 system is what creates and manages orders, manages
- 20 receipts of goods in the receiving department, the
- 21 storage of product, you know, all of the various
- 22 facets of operating a distribution center.
- 23 So the order would be transmitted or would
- 24 move through the portion of the mainframe that 25
 - created the order into the Warehouse Management

- 1 System for the particular distribution center
- 2 that -- that -- that serviced that store; and part
- 3 of the ware -- as part of the Warehouse Management
- 4 System, it would be routed to the pharmacy pick
- 5 area.
- 6 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. So is it correct that a specific distribution
- center is responsible for all products at certain
- specific stores? 9
- 10 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 11 THE WITNESS: No, it is not.
- 12 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 13 Q. Okay. So let's explain that. Is it possible,
- within Rite-Aid systems, for more than one distribution
- center to send product to a particular store?
- 16 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 17 THE WITNESS: It is.
- 18 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 19 Q. Are you familiar with the process of how an
- 20 order is sent to one distribution center or another?
- 21 A. I am.
- 22 Q. Okay. What's your understanding of that?
- 23 A. Rite-Aid kind of categorized products in -- in
- 24 big picture, and there's kind of three types of
- 25 products. There were Rx products; there were what were

- Q. Some front-end product from that distribution 2 center is placed on the loading dock to be put on a
- truck to go to a particular store; is that correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Product, yes. Product from --
- 6 is selected by Philadelphia, which would be the
- front-end product, would be put on the loading
- dock, yes.
- BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And if a store that's fulfilled by the
- Philadelphia center needs controlled substances and the
- Philadelphia center doesn't provide that, that comes in
- on another truck from another distribution center to
- the Philadelphia distribution center; is that correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 16 THE WITNESS: That is correct.
- 17 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And so that pallet or pallets of goods
- then is merged in with the other goods from the
- 20 Philadelphia center; is that correct?
 - MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 22 THE WITNESS: It's not quite that simple.
- 23 There is a -- in each of the distribution centers
- 24 there were what are called cross-dock cages that
 - were approved and inspected by the DEA, and the

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25

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- 1 called CP products for centralized products, and there
- 2 were front-end products; and every distribution center
- 3 stocked the front-end products.
- A subset of the distribution centers stocked
- 5 the CP and the pharmacy products. So a store that
- 6 would -- whose trucks originated at a DC that only 7 stocked front-end products, like the Philadelphia one
- that I managed, got their CP and pharmacy products from
- 9 another distribution center.
- 10 That product was select -- the orders were
- 11 selected and picked and packed at the other
- 12 distribution center, sent to the front-end distribution
- 13 center. So they would have been sent to Philadelphia,
- 14 and they would have been cross-docked and merged with
- 15 the product that Philadelphia picked for that store for
- 16 the load to be completed for delivery to the store.
- 17 Q. So when you say -- you used the term
- 18 "cross-docked." So that means -- so for -- let's talk
- 19 about the, as an example, the Philadelphia location.
- 20 So there's a truck that's going to go to a particular
- 21 store that's filled with what you would call front-end
- 22 product, correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form. Is there a 23
- 24 question there? Yeah.
- 25 BY MR. PIFKO:

- DEA approved our procedures around those
- cross-dock cages.
- 3 So the product, when it came from the pharmacy
- 4 distribution center, didn't go to the loading
- 5 dock. It went to the cross-dock cage, and it was
- 6 counted and tallied as it went into the cross-dock
- cage; and then when it came out of the cross-dock
- 8 cage to go onto the outbound load, it was -- the
- 9 counts were verified, and so there was a final
- 10 count of totes that were put on out of the
- 11 cross-dock cage, you know, onto -- there was a
- 12 final count that was part of the loading manifest
- 13 for that final delivery.
- 14 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. So when you have a distribution center
- that doesn't provide its own controlled substances and
- it has to get them from another distribution center,
- all the controlled substances that come in are put in a
- separate area until they're ultimately loaded on a
- 20 truck?
- 21 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: All of the pharmacy product, all 22
- 23 of it is --
- 24 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 25 Q. Okay.

Page 50 A. -- is in a -- was in a cross-dock cage.

2 Q. Okay.

1

- 3 A. Again, it was -- the entire process was
- 4 approved by the DEA. They gave -- approved the
- 5 specifications when the cross-dock cages were
- 6 constructed, inspected, and approved them for use
- ⁷ before they were put into use.
- Q. So when an order is getting put on a truck,
- 9 there's -- there's some sort of manifest of what's
- 10 supposed to go into that truck?
- 11 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 12 THE WITNESS: There is a -- are you -- are you
- 13 talking specifically about pharmacy products?
- 14 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 15 Q. Well, in general, any products. A truck is
- going to go to a store. How do you know what to put on
- that truck?
- 18 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 19 THE WITNESS: There are -- for the front-end
- 20 products, those are packed and palletized by
- 21 selectors in the front-end distribution center.
- 22 There was not necessarily a -- and it depended on
- 23 the distribution center because they had different
- 24 systems at different locations; but there wasn't
- 25 necessarily, for front-end product, a specific
 - Page 51
- tally that said, you know, you're getting 112 1
- 2 totes, you know, 68 boxes, things of that nature.
- 3 The way that operated is everything came
- 4 through the conveyor system to the shipping 5 department and was controlled -- there was a
- 6 mechanism to control that you knew when a wave of
- 7 stores were finished so that you knew you had all
- 8 the picks for that store and it was complete; but
- 9 there was not a tally, you know, a count of totes,
- 10 for example, of front-end product.
- 11 Now, pharmacy product, there absolutely was.
- 12 There was a specific count that was signed for
- 13 when the cross-dock DC, you know, came into the
- 14 cross-dock DC. The counts were verified. They
- 15 were verified when they were loaded onto the
- 16 truck, and they were signed for when they were
- 17
- delivered to the store.
- 18 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 19 Q. Okay. And so when someone is loading that
- 20 onto the truck, there's some sort of indication that
- 21 you're supposed to go to the pharmacy cage and get
- 22 products?
- 23 A. And they know how many totes --
- 24 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 25 THE WITNESS: And they know how many totes

- they're supposed to get, correct.
- 2 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. So they go and get that, and then as
- they're loading the truck, they put that in there?
- A. Correct.
- Q. Let's back up to the actual pharmacy location
- again. So we talked about the automated system where
- you have the computer algorithms that's monitoring
- demand and product moving out of the store and checking
- the inventory. Do you recall that discussion?
- 11 A. I do.

12

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- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 13 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 14 Q. So do you have familiarity with how the
- inventory is inputted into the -- at the pharmacy is
- inputted into that computer system?
- 17 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
 - THE WITNESS: I -- that wasn't my area of
- 19 responsibility. I -- I -- my general
- 20 understanding is that the orders that were shipped
- 21 were received into the distribution -- into the
- 22 inventory of the store based on the projected
- 23 delivery date from the distribution center, but
- 24 I'm not an expert on that system.
- 25 BY MR. PIFKO:

- Page 53
- Q. Okay. But what I'm trying to understand is,
- 2 you said it's an algorithm that's sort of checking the
- 3 rate of products moving versus what's sitting on the
- 4 shelf in the pharmacy, correct?
- A. Correct.
- Q. And so what I'm trying to understand is, how
- does the computer know what's sitting on the shelf, if
- you know that?
- A. My understanding is that there -- we knew what
- day a store was -- the delivery would take place for
- 11 that store. We knew the contents of the pharmacy
- 12 totes, and we knew how many pharmacy totes that they
- 13 received -- or that were shipped to them.
 - On the day that the delivery took place to
- that store, the pharmacy's -- my understanding is that
- the pharmacy's inventory was updated with the contents
- 17 of those totes.
- Q. Okay. So it's essentially automated updating
- 19 based on the materials that are coming in. The
- computer knows that 10 items came in, so it just adds
- 10 items to the known inventory; is that correct?
 - MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 23 THE WITNESS: That is my understanding.
- 24 BY MR. PIFKO:

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Q. Okay. So then let's talk about how the orders

- ¹ came in to the distribution center again. For -- I
- ² asked you and I kind of understood, but I think we can
- ³ get a clearer record.
- 4 With respect to Schedule 3 controlled
- ⁵ substances, when a specific pharmacy needs to fill
- 6 their inventory, does that order always get placed to
- 7 the same distribution center for pharmaceutical
- 8 products, or can it get bumped around to different
- ⁹ distribution centers?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 11 THE WITNESS: There is a fixed relationship
- between a store and its servicing DC or DCs.
- However, that can change over time; but at any
- point in time, a store would only receive pharmacy
- product from one Rite-Aid distribution center.
- 16 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Is it possible that if the distribution center
- 18 is out of a product that's ordered or low on it, that
- 19 that order could then be kicked over to another
- 20 distribution center?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: It was not. That was not our
- 23 process.
- 24 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And then I think I asked you this

- 1 at any particular time?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: It could. It would contain all

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- 4 of the items that were part of the order that they
- 5 were expected to place on that day.
- 6 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. So your understanding -- you understand that
- 8 in connection with the lawsuit, certain documents were
- 9 collected from Rite-Aid?
- 10 A. I do.
- 11 Q. Okay. And some of those included documents
- 12 from your E-mail. Do you understand that?
- 13 A. I do.
- Q. Okay. So I've looked at some of those
- 15 documents. I've seen that some stores were called
- 16 weekly and some were called biweekly; is that correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. And that means that a truck would come
- 19 to them weekly or biweekly; is that correct?
- 20 A. Correct.
- Q. And so the automated system was set up to fill
- 22 orders as needed, either weekly or biweekly; is that
- 23 correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: To the best of my knowledge,

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- 1 before, but do you know the name of the ordering
- 2 software that was used?
- 3 A. In the -- to create the store orders?
- 4 Q. Well, the computer system that facilitated the
- ⁵ ordering between the stores and the distribution
- 6 centers.
- A. I don't. I -- no, I don't.
- 8 Q. You talked about a warehouse management
- 9 system. Do you recall saying that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Is that just a generic name for a type
- 12 of software?
- 13 A. It is.
- Q. Okay. That's not a specific company or --
- 15 A. No.
- Q. -- brand or anything like that?
- 17 A. No, it is not.
- Q. So an order gets placed into a distribution
- 19 center, and then that -- that distribution center
- 20 receives that via computer?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 23 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. And then is the order from a pharmacy, would
- 25 that contain a whole host of items that they might need

- 1 yes.
- ² BY MR. PIFKO:
- ³ Q. Okay. So an order that comes into the
- 4 distribution center contains all the various items the
- 5 store might need, either on a weekly or biweekly basis,
- 6 correct?
- 7 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 9 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And then there's -- you testified
- 11 earlier that there's different areas within the
- 12 distribution center where an order could be filled,
- 13 correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 16 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. And so one of those areas is pharmacy,
- 18 correct?

- 19 A. Correct.
- Q. So when an order comes in from a location, is
- 21 it somehow then divided into, okay, these people need
- 22 to look at this portion of the order and these people
- 23 need to look at this portion of the order?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
 - THE WITNESS: The -- all of the items that the

Page 58 1 distribution center will select for -- would 1 contain product. 2 select for a store, would fill for a store, have a 2 On -- each of those shelves are subdivided 3 3 defined pick location within the distribution into pick locations that I -- as I mentioned 4 center. 4 earlier that are defined for a specific product. 5 So the orders are broken out according to pick 5 Each of those locations has a light in front of 6 locations, and so all of the orders that involve 6 it, an LED display that is intended to be able to 7 pharmaceutical products would be broken out by the display the pick quantity for that skew for the 8 8 pick locations that were assigned to those store that you're selecting; and then there's 9 9 pharmaceutical products and sent to the area to another overall display for the order that you're 10 pick pharmaceuticals. 10 selecting. 11 BY MR. PIFKO: 11 So at the beginning of the pick area, you pick 12 12 Q. When you say "sent to the area," does that up a tote, you'd scan the tote. It would tell 13 13 mean it's loaded onto a computer terminal in that area, you, okay, now you're on Order 1234567. It knows or is there a physical piece of paper that gets printed 14 that that tote that you're using is associated 15 15 out? Are you familiar with that process? with that order, and it would light the lights for 16 16 you to go and pick the individual products. A. It's -- we used a system called pick-to-light. 17 BY MR. PIFKO: 17 So it was a computerized system and -- with a display 18 at each pick location that would tell you the quantity 18 Q. Okay. And then how -- are you familiar with 19 to pick, and so it was sent to the pick-to-light how the lights relate to quantity? 20 A. The lights displayed the quantity, so --21 21 Q. So if you're an employee who's responsible for Q. Okay. So --22 fulfilling an order, is there a name for that type of 22 A. They would display two if you were to pick two employee? 23 bottles. They would display one if you were to pick 24 MS. McENROE: Objection to form. 24 one. 25 THE WITNESS: It would be an order selector. 25 Q. Okay. I thought you said something about Page 59 Page 61 1 color, did I mishear you, of the light? 1 I mean -- yes. 2 BY MR. PIFKO: 2 A. I don't recall saying that. 3 3 Q. Okay. O. Okav. A. A pharmacy order selector, so --A. I said LED. They were LED lights, yeah. Q. So a Schedule 3 controlled substance order Q. Okay. So I'm an order filler. 6 comes in. The order selector, they have to go to a A. Order selector. 7 computer terminal and determine what orders they're Q. Okay. I'm an order selector, and I type in supposed to fill? I'm going to fill pharmaceutical products for Store 9 MS. McENROE: Objection to form. 12345 into the computer, and then it lights up all the THE WITNESS: The orders automatically load 10 different boxes I need to go to to put into the tote? 11 into the pick-to -- or are automatically loaded A. In effect. I mean, you scan a tote to start 12 into the pick-to-light system. So they're queued 12 the order. You go into the area. An order is queued 13 up for the order selector, and so they would up in the area that you're working in. When you scan a 14 basically just start with the first order that was tote to start an order, it knows, okay, the order that 15 in the system for them, if that makes sense. 15 I have queued up on this display is the order for this 16 BY MR. PIFKO: tote that they're -- this individual is beginning to 17 Q. Yeah. And I'm just trying to visualize. So work in. So that's kind of the general. 18 I'm a worker in the distribution center. Do I have a Q. Okay. And then as I move down the aisle, I 19 handheld terminal, or I go to, like, a desk where 19 see areas that are lit up, and it has a number next to

- know what I'm supposed to do?
- 22 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: You go to a picking module, and 23

there's -- the orders are laid out for me? How do I

- 24 there are, in that picking module -- and by
- 25 "picking module" I mean a set of shelves that
- 20 it?

- 21 A. Correct.
- Q. And then there's a, like, a bin, like you 22
- said, and I grab the number of items that are lit up on
- 24 the light and put it into the tote?
 - A. Correct. And then you'd press a button to

- 1 confirm that you picked it, and it puts the -- the
- 2 display then goes away.
- 3 Q. And then when I've completed that, I put the
- 4 tote somewhere?
- 5 A. There's a --
- 6 MS. McENROE: Object to form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: There's a conveyor system that
- 8 takes the tote away from the pharmacy area.
- 9 MS. McENROE: Mr. Pifko, if we get to a good
- time to stop for a break, we've been going about
- 11 an hour.
- MR. PIFKO: Yeah. We can take a break right
- 13 now.
- MS. McENROE: Great. Thank you.
- MR. PIFKO: Thanks.
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record, 10:40 a.m.
- 17 (Brief recess was taken.)
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On the record, 10:53 a.m.
- 19 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. I forgot to ask you before we started: Have
- 21 you ever been deposed before?
- 22 A. I have not.
- Q. All right. What did you do to prepare for
- 24 this deposition?
- A. I had a telephone call with our attorneys last

- Q. Okay. So let's go back to our discussion
 - ² about the order process.
 - 3 A. Okay.
 - 4 Q. Does the -- so this -- we talked about the
 - 5 system where an order is placed with the pharmacy is
 - 6 automated, correct?
 - 7 A. Correct.
 - Q. Does the -- I keep forgetting the name of the
 - 9 person -- the order -- I'm going to write it down.
 - 10 A. Order selector.
 - 11 Q. Order selector. Does the order selector have
 - 12 any ability -- ability to deviate from the items that
 - 13 the -- that the automated system is lighting up and
 - 14 telling them to pick?
 - A. To add additional items? No.
 - Q. How about to subtract items?
 - 17 A. They can -- they can adjust the quantity down
 - 18 for an item. They can't delete an item from the
 - 19 record; but, if they were unable to pick an item or, as
 - 20 I mentioned earlier, we had controls in place involving
 - 21 thresholds that couldn't be exceeded, if the order
 - 22 quantity that initially came in exceeded that, they had
 - 23 the ability to adjust the quantity down, but they
 - 24 couldn't remove an item from the record, if that's your

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25 question.

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- 1 Monday and then had some meetings yesterday -- or met
- 2 with them yesterday.
- Q. When was the -- and when you say your
- 4 attorneys, you mean the woman next to you?
- 5 A. Yeah. I mean John, Kelly, and Elisa, correct.
- Q. Okay. When was the first time that you heard
 you were going to be deposed in connection with this
- 8 case?
- 9 A. It was a few months ago. I couldn't tell you
- 10 the exact date, but it was some -- a few months ago.
- 11 Q. I talked to you earlier about documents and
- 12 the idea that certain documents were collected for the
- 13 litigation. Did you do anything to look and see if you
- 14 had any documents, aside from those that might be
- 15 maintained at the company?
- 16 A. You're asking did I check at home to see if
- 17 I--
- 18 O. Yes.
- 19 A. I do not have any documents at home related to
- 20 my employment at Rite-Aid. The only -- let me correct
- 21 that. The only documents I have related to my
- 22 employment at Rite-Aid are related to my retirement.
- 23 You know, I have things about my 401(k).
- Q. Nothing related to the case?
- A. But nothing related to the case, no.

- Q. Okay. Well, let's -- let's talk about the --
- ² more details of that. Okay?
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. So if an item -- I think what you just said,
- ⁵ if an item, if there's not enough of it in the
- 6 container when they go to pick it, that might be a
- 7 reason that they'd have to put less in there?
- 8 A. They could adjust an order down if we were out
- ⁹ of stock or, for some reason, unable to fill that item,
- 10 that order, yes.

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- Q. And then -- but -- okay. So that isn't really
- 12 up to them. It's just if they go to -- it says pick 10
- items and there's only nine in there, that's all
- they -- they just pick what they can and then they
- write in the computer that it was out of stock?
 - MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: If -- if they're unable to
- fulfill the entire order quantity on the
- pick-to-light display, the module that is
- underneath the pick location, there's an ability
- 21 for them to adjust down.
- As I mentioned earlier, when they pick, if
- they pick complete, they indicate they pick
 complete, confirm it, and the light goes out. If
 - they pick less than complete, they reduce the

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- 1 quantity and confirm it, and the light goes out.
- ² BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. And then you mentioned that there are -- there
- 4 were order thresholds for controlled substances that
- 5 couldn't be exceeded, correct?
- 6 A. There was an order threshold, yes, a single
- ⁷ value, yes.
- ⁸ Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the thresholds?
- 9 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 10 THE WITNESS: I -- I am.
- 11 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Did all the stores have the same threshold?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 14 THE WITNESS: It was generally true there was
- a single threshold. There were a very small
- number of stores that, after evaluation and
- analysis by our government affairs department,
- were defined as exceptions and could get greater
- quantities than the threshold; but there was a
- process that they had to go through.
- You know, the government affairs department
- looked at the movement, the location of the store,
- the movement of the items, the history, that type
- of thing, and then an exception could be granted;
- but there was a very, very small number of those
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- 1 exceptions.
- 2 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Do you have a time frame on the exceptions?
- 4 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I understand the
- 6 question.
- 7 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 8 Q. Okay. So I'm asking, again, we took a break,
- 9 so I want to be clear about that. I'm asking -- these
- 10 questions are about the time period when you were VP of
- 11 logistics. Okay?
- 12 A. Okay.
- Q. So you said that there was a very small number
- 14 of stores that had a higher threshold, correct?
- 15 A. Correct.
- Q. Do you know the, roughly, the time periods
- when those stores moved into a period when they had
- 18 this higher threshold?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: I do not.
- 21 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. But aside from that small handful, all stores
- 23 had the same threshold for controlled substances; is
- 24 that correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.

- THE WITNESS: That is correct.
- ² BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Let's talk about breaking out the thresholds a
- 4 little bit. Do you have an understanding, were there
- 5 thresholds for different types of products?
- 6 A. No.
- Q. Okay. So all Schedule 3s at all stores, other
- 8 than this handful of stores, all had the same
- 9 threshold?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Do you know what the threshold was?
- 12 A. I believe it was 5,000 dosage units. So if it
- 13 was, you know, a bottle of a hundred, the quantity
- 14 would be 50.
- 15 Q. And do you --
- A. I believe that's correct.
- Q. Do you have an understanding about how that
- threshold was established?
- A. I do not. That threshold was in place when I
- 20 joined Rite-Aid, so I -- I don't know the history of
- 21 that. I -- I generally understand there was an
- 22 analysis done of order volumes and demand; but I -- as
- 23 I said, it was in place when I joined Rite-Aid, so I
- don't have the details of how it was established.
- 5 O. And so if an order came in from the automated
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- 1 system that exceeded the threshold, the order selector,
- 2 how would they know that it exceeded the threshold?
- 3 A. By what it displayed on the pick-to-light
- 4 module
- ⁵ Q. So the pick-to-light module would
- 6 automatically adjust down the order to meet the
- 7 threshold?
- 8 A. No. The order selector adjusted the order
- 9 down.
- Q. Okay. So how did the order -- did the order
- 11 selector know what the threshold -- where a store was
- 12 in terms of a threshold and how the order needed to be
- 13 adjusted down?
- A. Well, again, using the example I just gave, if
- 15 the product was in bottles of a hundred, they would
- know they couldn't bill more than 50, you know,
- assuming that the threshold was 5,000, which I believe
- 18 it was, they couldn't bill more than 50. So if an
- 19 order came in for 55, they would adjust it down to 50.
- Q. And then I think maybe some of my confusion
- 21 was, I needed to ask some more questions about the --
- 22 how the threshold works. So the threshold, is that --
- 23 was that a weekly threshold?
 - A. It was on the order that was received, so it
- ²⁵ was on that order. As you mentioned earlier, some

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- stores were biweekly stores, so they only got product
 every other week. So it was on the order.
- ³ Q. So the threshold was based on the period for
- 4 which an order would be filled for that store?
- 5 A. The threshold was per order, correct.
- 6 Q. And you said all the stores had 5,000?
- 7 A. That's my understanding, yes.
- 8 O. What about for --
- 9 A. Except the exception stores that we mentioned,
- 10 so --
- Q. So for a store that was biweekly, was there a
- 12 threshold half of 5,000 or their threshold was 5,000 as
- 13 well?
- 14 A. The threshold was 5,000 for all stores, to the
- best of my knowledge, other than the exception stores
- 16 that went through a process to get an exception granted
- ¹⁷ through our government affairs department.
- Q. And so that 5,000 was for a specific order,
- 19 correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: It was per order for that
- 22 particular -- in other words, you're looking at
- the order today. You're not allowed to ship them
- more than 5,000 units.
- 25 BY MR. PIFKO:

- orders were in units, in bottles that we shipped
- or whatever the shipping container was.
 - So, you know, it wouldn't say 5 -- I guess my

5,001, but you could get an order -- because the

- 5 point is, it wouldn't say 5,001. It would say 51
- 6 bottles, and they would know to adjust it to 50.
- 7 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 8 Q. Okay. And so they would adjust it down to the
- 9 next -- the closest you would get to 5,000, based on
- 10 the particular volume of a bottle?
- 11 A. Correct. They would adjust it to the
- 12 threshold that was established based on the quantity
- that was packed in a bottle for that item, that's
- 14 correct.
- Q. And then would they have to enter in some sort
- of code into the system to note that the adjustment was
- 17 made for the purpose of lowering to the threshold?
 - A. They did not enter it into the pick-to-light
- 19 system. There was a -- a tracking mechanism where they
- 20 recorded that they adjusted it down; and they both kept
- 21 a file of those, an Excel file of those adjustments,
- 22 and also later sent those adjustments to the corporate
- 23 office.

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- Q. Was there also -- well, I guess maybe it's the
- 25 same file of orders that exceeded the threshold?

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- Q. And so the order selectors were familiar with
- 2 that threshold because it was the same for all stores,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Absolutely. Yes. That's correct.
- 5 Q. And so if an order came in from an automated
- 6 system that exceeded that, they would know that when
- ⁷ they saw it, and then they would adjust it downward?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. How would they go and adjust it downward?
- 10 A. The pick-to-light module that shows the order
- 11 quantity, there's a mechanism for adjusting the pick
- 12 down; and so they would adjust it down to whatever
- 13 quantity it was that they picked, and then they would
- 14 confirm that.
- Q. And then they would just adjust it down so
- 16 that it was within the threshold?
- A. So that it met the threshold. They would
- ¹⁸ adjust it to the threshold level.
- Q. So if an order came in for 5,001 dosage units,
- 20 they would adjust it down to 5,000 dosage units?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: That's conceptually correct.
- You know, the products are shipped in bottles of
- 50 or a hundred or what -- so you would -- I can't
- imagine a circumstance you'd get an order for

- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 2 THE WITNESS: Orders that exceeded the
- 3 thresh -- if it exceeded the threshold, it would
- 4 have been adjusted, and it would have been
- 5 contained in the file I just described.
- 6 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 7 O. And then where -- was there a name for that
- 8 file?
- 9 A. I'm sure there is, but I can't off the top of
- 10 my -- you know, that's a level of detail significantly
- 11 below what I was involved with; but I'm sure there was
- 12 a name for the file, but I couldn't tell you what it
- 13 was.
- 14 Q. Was someone -- you said it was -- ultimately
- 15 could be sent to corporate, correct?
- 16 A. Correct.
- Q. But was there someone who, before it got sent
- 18 to corporate, who would be responsible for looking at
- orders that were adjusted to threshold?
- 20 A. It was -- the process was that the picker
- adjusted it and recorded it; and the manager, the
- 22 pharmacy manager, would review and confirm, you know,
- 23 so the pharmacy -- it was looked at by two people.
- Both the picker and the pharmacy manager looked at the
- 25 adjustment that was made.

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Q. Do you have an understanding about the -- what criteria the manager would be looking at when they're looking at the adjustment? Why are they looking at it?

4 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.

THE WITNESS: The adjustments included both adjustments that we're talking about, both

adjustments that simply exceeded the threshold;

8 but you'll recall that earlier I mentioned that

9 another leg of the controls that Rite-Aid had in

place was that the order selectors, who were kind

of familiar with the norms, that, you know, the

normal patterns of ordering, if they saw something

that was unusual, they had the wherewithal to kind

of raise their hand and stop and either adjust it or call the -- if it was during the day, they'd

call the store to confirm the order quantity.

Even if it was below the threshold, there was a check that was made for that. Those were also

contained in the same -- in the same list, so in

the same file.

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So the manager was both, you know, confirming that someone had properly recorded the adjustments

that were made because of the threshold but also

was reviewing what action, if any, was taken for

the ones that were adjusted below the threshold.

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1 BY MR. PIFKO:

- 2 Q. At some point you had responsibility for
- 3 getting the spreadsheets of these threshold
- 4 exceedances. Do you recall that?
- 5 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 6 THE WITNESS: That came into the corporate
- 7 office in my department?
- 8 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 9 Q. Yes.
- 10 A. They came -- the adjustments that were made
- 11 came in to, you know, the regulatory individual that
- 12 worked for me, yes.
- Q. And there was a period when one of those
- 14 people, maybe they left the company or something, and
- 15 it was -- those were sent directly to you?
 - A. There was. For the -- I think you're actually
- 17 talking about a subset of those adjustments, the ones
- 18 that were basically for the ARCOS reportable items.
- 19 Yes, those were sent to me.
- Q. And that's what I'm getting at is, what was
- 21 your understanding of what was being sent to you at
- 22 that time?

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- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: Well, again, there's -- there
- was a file that contained all of the adjustments

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- that were made, and then there was a file that
 - contained only the ARCOS reportable items.
- The file that contains the ARCOS reportable
 - items was made to report the corresponding
- 5 corrections in the ARCOS file so that when it was
- 6 created -- when it was sent to the DEA, it
- 7 reflected the adjustment that was made at the
- 8 distribution center.
- 9 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. And so we're talking about, to be clear, you
- 11 understand that as a registrant, among the duties
- 12 Rite-Aid had was to report certain types of products to
- 13 the ARCOS system; is that correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
 - THE WITNESS: I do understand that.
- 16 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Okay. And so when the spreadsheet was sent to
- you, it was a subset of items that needed to be
- 19 reported to ARCOS; and, if I'm understanding you
- 20 correctly, you got that report so that you would make
- 21 sure the amount being reported into the ARCOS system
- 22 was the order actually filled, not the order actually
- 23 placed; is that correct?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: Well, let me restate it to make

- sure that this is being -- it was -- because you
- 2 said it was a subset of the ARCOS reportable
- 3 items. It was the -- the subset of the ARCOS
- 4 reportable items that had an adjustment, if that
- 5 makes sense.
- 6 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 7 O. Okay.
- 8 A. So there was a file of all of the items that
- 9 were adjusted, many of which were not ARCOS reportable.
- 10 That was a file. There was a separate file that was a
- 11 subset of that first file that was only the ARCOS
- 12 reportable items.
- That file was sent to be used to make -- to
- 14 adjust the quantities in the ARCOS file before it was
- 15 sent to the DEA. Does that make sense?
- Q. Yes. So is there an automated system for
- 17 queuing up the orders that were going to be reported to
- 18 the ARCOS system?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: I believe you're asking was
- 21 there an automated process to create the ARCOS
- file; is that correct?
- 23 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 24 Q. Yes.
- 25 A. Yes.

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- 1 Q. Okay. So the file would be created, but then
- 2 if order quantities had been adjusted through the
- 3 threshold system, someone would have to make sure that
- 4 they were appropriately reflected in the file that was
- 5 generated?
- 6 A. Yes. As I recall, the initial file contained
- 7 the original order quantity, not the quantity that was
- 8 ultimately shipped. So again, as I recall, the
- 9 adjustment had to be made based on the files that were
- 10 sent by the distribution center.
- Q. Okay. And then backing up, so there's a --
- 12 there's a file of these controlled substances that --
- 13 and you said if there's an adjustment downward for
- 14 threshold, that's put in the file; and then you said
- 15 that, on occasion, an order selector might decrease the
- 16 order, and that would have to be put in there as well?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Correct. They may decrease the
- order, even though it did not exceed the thresh --
- something that was within the threshold, but they
- 21 may have followed up with and found that the order
- needed to be adjusted.
- 23 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Was there -- are there codes in that system to
- 25 tell you why there's an adjustment being made?

- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: It -- it could be either of
- 3 those. It -- it would rarely be insufficient
 - supply because the system would not have -- if the
- 5 system knew we were -- you know, the system knows
- 6 the distribution center inventory as well.
 - So if the system, the Warehouse Management
- 8 System, did not show inventory to fulfill an
- 9 order, it would not have created one for the -
 - for the distribution center.
- So it was possible that there would be an
- inventory problem, or perhaps an item got
- quarantined, for example. So it showed in
- inventory, but we shouldn't ship it, and they'd
 - have to adjust for that reason, but that was very
- 16 uncommon.
- 17 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Are there any other reasons that an order
- 19 could be adjusted from the size of the order that came
- 20 in?
- 21 A. I'm -- I'm sure there are. I mean, again,
- 22 what typically would happen if they -- if they -- it
- 23 was below the threshold but it looked unusual or, you
- know, they had any question at all, they would attempt
- to call the store, and the store could tell them, you

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- 1 A. You're saying in the pick-to-light system?
- Q. In the -- in the spreadsheet that's created.
- ³ You said -- hold on for a second. So I believe you
- 4 said you don't remember the name of it; is that
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. That is correct.
- 7 Q. Okay. So we can just call it, for purposes of
- $^{\rm 8}~$ the deposition, the order adjustment spreadsheet.
- 9 Okay?
- 10 A. Okay.
- Q. So in this order adjustment spreadsheet, is
- 12 there any sort of coding so you know that an order was
- 13 adjusted for a specific reason?
- A. I don't -- I guess I don't recall the file
- 15 specifically enough to say with certainty; but I would
- 16 guess there was something that indicated which ones
- 17 were adjusted because they exceeded the threshold and
- 18 maybe -- I know that -- I know that if they adjusted it
- 19 for a reason besides exceeding the threshold, they had
- 20 to indicate why. So there was -- there was some
- 21 narrative or something in there about that.
- Q. Okay. So that could be they made some one-off
- 23 adjustment after talking to the store, or it also could
- 24 be because there wasn't sufficient supply in the
- 25 warehouse?

1 know, what they really intended to do. Did they really

- 2 need that quantity?
- Maybe they -- so I know, again, there was some
- 4 comments made about, Here's why I adjusted. This is
- 5 what the store told me. So I couldn't tell you what
- 6 all of those things were, but those would have been
- 7 based on conversations with the pharmacist at the
- 8 store.
- 9 Q. And then that was going to be my next
- o question, was, so if there was a conversation with
- somebody at the store, that would be documented in the
- 12 spreadsheet?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you -- are you familiar with any training
- on Controlled Substances Act that order selectors may
- 16 have received?
- 7 A. I'm not -- you know, let me first say that I
- 18 wasn't -- my area wasn't responsible for the operation
- 19 of the distribution centers. So that wasn't directly
- 20 in my purview. I know that their -- they were trained
- on their responsibilities and what they were expected to execute at the distribution center.
- I don't know whether there was any training
- 24 that specifically mentioned the Controlled Substances
- Act. I know that it told them what we could and

- 1 couldn't do and did and didn't do to make -- to ensure
- 2 that we complied with the Controlled Substances Act.
- Q. And just -- I think we kind of covered this,
- 4 but I just want to make sure we're clear. Are you --
- 5 having been a former distribution center general
- 6 manager, are you familiar with the chain of management
- 7 and -- of employees at the distribution center?
- 8 A. You're talking about the reporting structure
- 9 at the distribution center?
- 10 Q. Yeah.
- 11 A. Generally, yes.
- Q. Okay. So an order selector, is that an hourly
- 13 position?
- 14 A. Yes
- Q. And is that a daytime position or a nighttime
- 16 position?
- 17 A. There are order selectors -- we run a
- 18 multi-shift operation at almost all of the distribution
- 19 centers, so --
- Q. Okay. So they can be both?
- A. They can be both.
- Q. So there's -- order selecting happens 24 hours
- 23 a day?
- A. It happens throughout the day. The schedule
- ²⁵ varies, depending on the specific distribution center.

- Q. And who does the pharmacy department manager
- 2 report to?
- 3 A. They would generally report to an operations
- 4 manager.

1

- 5 Q. And then they report to the general manager?
- 6 A. That would be -- typically that would be the
- 7 case, yes.
- 8 Q. Are you familiar -- so we talked about it a
- 9 little bit earlier. We talked about the idea of
- 10 diversion. Do you recall that?
- 11 A. I do.
- Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the idea of
- 13 suspicious order monitoring and reporting under the
- 14 Controlled Substances Act?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 16 THE WITNESS: I am.
- 17 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 18 Q. Okay. Are you aware of whether Rite-Aid had a
- 19 system in place to report suspicious orders to the DEA?
- 20 A. Our process -- again, I've got to walk through
- 21 the process for creating the orders to ensure that the
- 22 orders are correct based on demand. Then they are --
- 23 they arrive at the distribution center, and they are
- 24 then adjusted below that threshold and reviewed by the
- associates as they pick them.

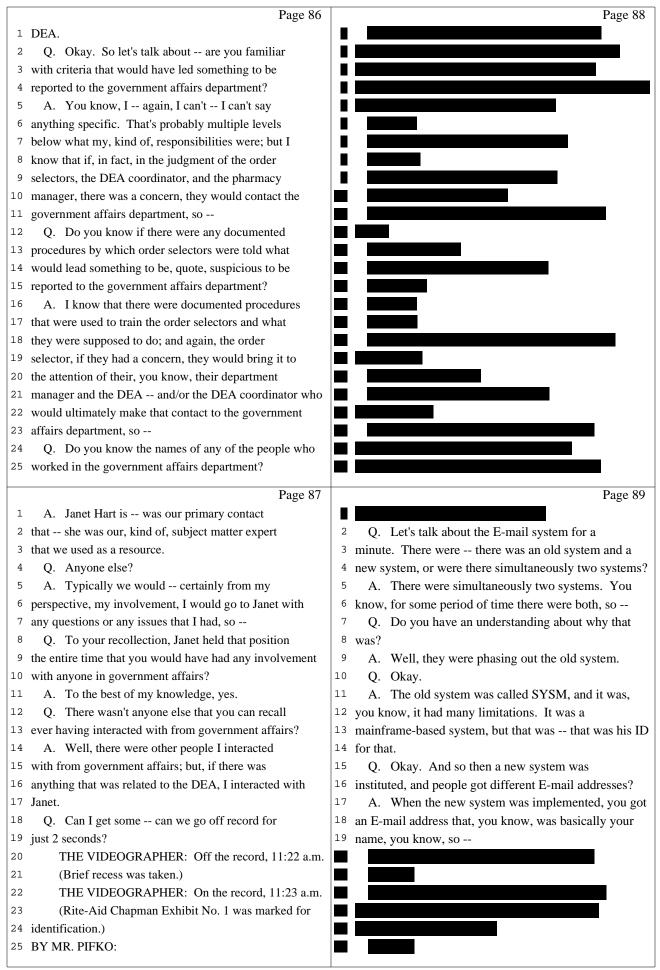
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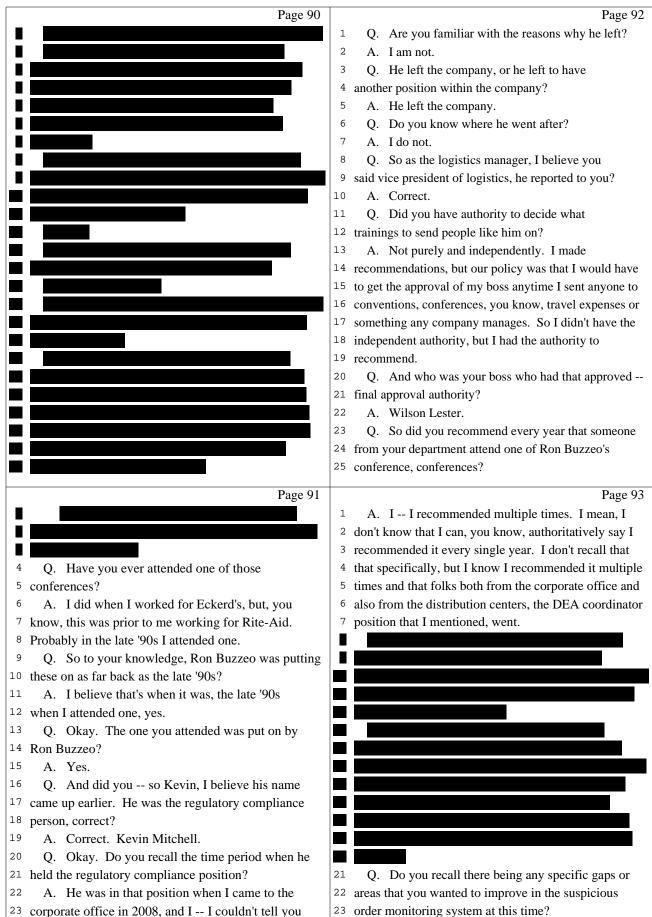
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- 1 There typically is a window during that -- during that
- 2 24-hour day, there's a window where no order selecting
- 3 is being done for system maintenance and replenishment,
- 4 things of that nature; but, as a general statement, it
- 5 could happen throughout the day.
- 6 Q. And who do the order selectors report to?
- 7 A. They will generally report to a department
- $\,^{8}\,$ manager. There's a pharmacy department manager.
- 9 There's also, in each pharmacy department, a DEA
- 10 coordinator who monitors the activities in the
- 11 controlled substance cage and all of the things related
- 12 to DEA, and they would be a resource for those
- 13 associates as well.
- Q. Is there a DEA coordinator on site during all
- 15 shifts or only during the day?
- 16 A. There is not one on site during all shifts.
- 17 There is a DEA coordinator at the distribution center.
- 18 That person, as a part of their responsibility, may be
- 19 asked to work all shifts from time to time.
- Q. So that the order selector reports up to
- 21 the --
- A. To a department manager.
- Q. -- a department manager; and in the case of
- 24 controlled substances, is it the pharmacy department?
- 25 A. Correct.

If, in fact, we saw anything suspicious at

- 2 that point, our policy was, at the distribution center,
- 3 to contact the government affairs department, and they
- 4 would take care of any notification that took place.
- 5 Q. Was there any system to report an order that
- 6 exceeded the threshold to the DEA?
- A. "Report an order that exceeded the threshold."
- 8 We -- are you asking whether we automatically reported
- 9 all orders that exceeded the threshold to the DEA?
- 10 Q. Right.
- 11 A. We did not. The threshold was set -- in many
- 12 cases, the threshold was set as a level, again, as kind
- 13 of the last line of defense after the orders were
- 14 already created through these other systems and if
- 15 anything reduced it below what that legitimate expected
- 16 order would be.
- So I don't believe -- they certainly -- we did
- 18 not report to the DEA every time we adjusted an order
- 19 based on a threshold.
- Q. Are you familiar with the criteria that were
- 21 used to decide whether to report an order to the DEA?
- 22 A. All -- of my own knowledge, the only thing I
- know is that they would report anything we were
- 24 concerned with to the government affairs department and
- that they would then make the decision to report to the





25

A. I do not.

²⁵ not sure of the exact date. 2010, 2011, so --

24 exactly when he left. I would say 2011 maybe, but I'm

Q. Do you recall making any changes to the system

- 1 as a result of this discussion in 2009?
- 2 A. I do not recall making any changes.
- ³ Q. If there were changes, would you be aware of ⁴ them?
- 5 A. I would expect to be, yes.
- 6 Q. Do you recall there being changes to the
- 7 system at any time during your tenure?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I do not. You know, I will say
- this: When I joined Rite-Aid, I was quite
- impressed by the process that they had in place to
- manage controls when I first became involved with
- it. It was, you know, robust, multilevel.
- So no, I -- I -- to the best of my knowledge,
- that system that was in place remained in place
- throughout the remainder of the time that Rite-Aid
- shipped controlled substances.
- 18 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Do you know if Mr. Mitchell brought any
- 20 paperwork back from the conference with him?
- 21 A. I -- I don't recall that.
- 22 Q. Do you --
- A. I don't recall.
- Q. Do you recall, at any time anyone attended one
- ²⁵ of Mr. Buzzeo's conferences, them bringing back any

- 1 Janet Hart about the suspicious order monitoring?
- 2 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Pursuant to this?
- 4 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 5 Q. Yes.
- 6 A. No. I do not. Again, this was one of
- 7 multiple areas of responsibility that I had. So I
- 8 charged Kevin with that responsibility. Kevin would
- 9 have had the discussion with Janet. If there were any
- 10 issues, Kevin would have brought them back to me. That
- 11 would have escalated it, and we would have had further
- 12 discussion with Janet; but no, I don't remember any
- discussion with Janet as a result of this.
- Q. How about at any time, did you have a
- 15 discussion with Janet Hart about suspicious order
- 6 monitoring?
- A. Well, later in my tenure at Rite-Aid we looked
- 18 at automating some of the manual processes that I
- 19 described, you know, to increase the efficiency for
- 20 that; and so there was some work that was initiated to
- 21 potentially kick off a system project, and I did have
- 22 some conference -- some conversations probably with
- 23 Janet at that time.
- Again, they would have been very limited at my
- 25 level when -- the period I'm talking about, Chris Belli

- 1 materials they might have received from the conference?
- A. I don't specifically recall that, no.
- 3 Q. When you attended one of Mr. Buzzeo's
- 4 conferences, do you recall receiving any materials?
- 5 A. I would assume that I did, but it's -- you
- 6 know, it's long enough ago that I don't really
- 7 remember; but typically when you go to a conference,
- 8 there's some printed material that you get, so --
- 9 Q. Do you know if materials from the conference
- 10 would have been maintained by your department or the
- 11 regulatory compliance department at any time?
- 12 A. Again, I don't know that there were any
- 13 materials from the -- from the conference. So I can't
- 14 answer that. I -- I don't know what it was and, you
- 15 know, if there was anything. So -- so I don't know the
- 16 answer to that question.
- Q. You said that you would have referred Kevin to
- 18 Janet Hart to have a discussion about any concerns he
- 19 had?
- 20 A. Correct. With -- with the thought that -- to
- 21 make sure that we compared whatever Ron described as an
- 22 issue with our current processes and if, after that,
- 23 Janet felt like there were any concerns, we would
- 24 certainly take steps to address them, so --
- Q. Do you recall having any discussions with

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 1 was in place, and Chris Belli would have had, you know,
- 2 any detailed conversations with Janet about it; but I'm
- 3 sure we had some conversations then when we were
- 4 talking about automating some of this.
- Q. There's a document called a Project
- 6 Initiation. Is that a form that you're familiar with?
- 7 A. It is
- 8 Q. Okay. And you recall corresponding with
- 9 people, including Janet and Chris, about the project
- 10 initiation?
- 11 A. I do. It's for the project I just
- 12 mentioned --
- 13 Q. Right.
- 14 A. -- that it was to automate some of these
- 15 manual processes that we had in place and to provide
- 16 some -- you know, the thought process of that project
- was to take activities -- both to automate what was
- 18 going on at the distribution centers but also to take
- activities that were being run by separate processesand our loss prevention perhaps and government affairs
- 21 area and collect them all into one system. So yes, I
- 22 do recall that.
- 23 Q. To your knowledge, was that project ever
- 24 implemented?
- A. No, that project was never implemented.

- Q. Do you know why it was not implemented?
- A. Well, ultimately Rite-Aid stopped shipping
- ³ controlled substances. So there was work to evaluate
- 4 the project, to, you know, to scope out the work effort
- 5 for the project, to get it on the -- in the work queue,
- 6 you know, any -- I referred to the IT department.
- 7 All IT departments, I'm sure at every company
- 8 in America, has a backlog of projects to do. So
- 9 there's a work queue that it would have to be entered
- 10 into, and there was work to kind of get it into that
- 11 work queue; and, as I recall, that was -- by the time
- 12 that was underway, it was shortly before we eliminated
- 13 shipping pharmacy.
- So there would no longer have been a benefit,
- 15 truly, of automating a process that was already in
- place and already sufficed as it stood, even if it was
- ¹⁷ a little less efficient than we liked it to be.
- Q. And what do you mean it was less efficient
- 19 than you would like it to be?
- 20 A. Well, some of the manual steps that we -- I
- 21 talked about the order selectors having to write things
- 22 down and recording it in an Excel spreadsheet and
- 23 things of that nature. The project kind of envisioned
- 24 that that could all be done online and would be
- 25 collected in one central database as opposed to being

- 1 center being selected as one of the test sites for that
- 2 project?
- 3 A. I -- I don't recall it. You know, I don't
- 4 recall why we selected that, but it doesn't surprise me
- 5 that we would have selected Liverpool.
- Q. Where is the Liverpool distribution center?
- 7 A. Near Syracuse, New York.
- 8 Q. And do you have an understanding about the
- 9 geographic regions serviced by the Liverpool
- 10 distribution center?
- 11 A. Generally, and again, as I mentioned earlier,
- 12 those service locations changed over time; but yeah, as
- a general statement, I could say yes.
- 14 Q. Do you know the states that were included
- within the service area for the Liverpool distribution
- 16 center?
- 17 A. At various times it would have included
- 18 obviously New York, some stores probably in
- 19 New Hampshire, Connecticut, you know, Western
- 20 Massachusetts, Northern Pennsylvania, probably the edge
- 21 of Ohio.
- You know, I'm not -- you know, we -- that was
- 23 something that was managed based on distribution center
- 24 capacity; and, as I mentioned, that changed over time
- 25 as distribution centers closed and as Rite-Aid

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- 1 on an Excel spreadsheet, things of that nature, so --
- Q. Do you recall when the discussions first
- 3 started about this project?
- 4 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I -- I don't recall exactly.
- 6 I -- no. My guess would be 2012 or '13; but, you
- 7 know, I'd have to go back and look at the
- 8 documents to confirm that, so --
- 9 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Do you recall -- I believe that you were just
- 11 testifying about the process of implementing the
- 12 procedure and going through IT. Do you recall that?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. As one of those processes, you would have a --
- some test sites where you would implement this program;
- 16 is that correct?
- A. Are you asking as a part of getting the
- 18 project approved or part of actually developing and
- 19 implementing the project?
- Q. Part of developing and implementing it.
- A. If we developed and implemented it, any IT
- 22 project, we would typically pilot it at, you know, one
- 23 or -- you know, one or two locations before
- 24 implementing it at all of the locations.
- Q. Do you recall the Liverpool distribution

- 1 completed the integration of the Eckerd stores and
- ² distribution centers.
- 3 So gosh, I -- you know, to me, at my level,
- 4 they were store numbers and volumes and transportation

- 5 needs. It wasn't -- you know, it wasn't something that
- 6 I looked at in great detail, so --
- 7 Q. Is there a document that tells you which
- 8 distribution centers served which stores at any given
- 9 time?
- 10 A. There were -- there was a -- in the Rite-Aid
- 1 database, you know, there was a place where you
- 12 indicated who -- which distribution centers serviced a
- store for whatever period of time, and then when you
- 14 made a change, you made a change in that database.
- So I'm sure that they could be extracted from
- 16 that. Beyond that, there were -- you know, various
- ⁻⁷ functional areas kept spreadsheets of, you know,
- 18 service areas and things of that nature, so --
- Q. You mentioned that you wouldn't be surprised
- 20 that the Liverpool distribution center would be
- 21 selected as a pilot location for the program, the
- suspicious order monitoring automation program, what
- 23 you were just discussing. Why did you say that?
- A. Well, Perryman is -- we only had pharmacy
- products in four of the distribution centers:

- ${\tt 1}\;\;$ Tuscaloosa, Woodland on the West Coast, Liverpool, and
- 2 Perryman. We -- if we were going to pilot something,
- 3 you know, one of the considerations would be
- 4 geographical proximity to the corporate office in case,
- 5 you know, as you went and did some testing and
- 6 participated and things of that nature.
- 7 And although the Perryman distribution center
- 8 is actually closer to the corporate office, we would
- 9 tend to not pilot something at Perryman because it was
- 10 so large.
- Perryman is -- was Rite-Aid's largest
- 12 distribution center by a significant, you know -- a
- 13 significant proportion. So, you know, when you're
- 14 piloting a new system, you probably don't want to go
- 15 into the biggest location that you have.
- Q. Are you familiar with the process by which --
- 17 we talked about how orders get placed by a store to the
- 18 distribution center. At some point a distribution
- 19 center runs low on supply. We talked about that a
- 20 little bit. Are you familiar with the process by which
- 21 a distribution center orders product?
- A. Generally, yes. That wasn't in my area of
- 23 responsibility; and just as a point of clarification,
- 24 the distribution center did not order product. There
- 25 was a functional department at the corporate office
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- 1 that managed the replenishment of goods into the
- ² distribution centers.
- Q. Do you know if, similar to the way store
- 4 orders were made, if it was through an automated
- 5 system?
- 6 A. It was.
- 7 Q. Okay. So do you know if it's similar in
- 8 regards to the distribution center's computer system
- 9 would be monitoring the demand of items versus the
- 10 inventory and request to be refilled based on that?
- 11 A. Yes. In broad strokes, that's correct. It
- 12 would look at the on-hand balance for an item; it would
- 13 look at the projected demand for an item. There was an
- 14 ability to adjust for seasonality.
- You know, obviously some -- you know, you sell
- 16 more filler paper in June than you do in -- or June and
- 17 July as you're going back to school than you do later
- 18 in the year. So there's an ability to adjust for
- 19 seasonality.
- So there was some -- some other controls or
- 21 adjustments that could be made in that -- in that, and
- 22 it also took into account lead time and required order
- 23 sizes. Some items you have to order -- you know, some
- 24 item you have to order by the pallet. Some items you
- 25 can order by the case type of thing, so --

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- Q. Do you know if that was the same computer
- 2 system used at the stores?
- 3 A. No, it was not. There was a -- no, it was
- 4 not.
- 5 Q. Do you know -- do you know the name of that
- 6 system?
- A. It was -- E3 was the vendor that it was
- 8 purchased through, so -- and again, I'm not -- that
- 9 wasn't my area of responsibility. I'm not an expert.
- 10 I, you know, kind of in general know conceptually how
- 11 it worked, but we've just about exhausted my knowledge
- 12 at this point.
- Q. There was someone at headquarters who was
- 14 responsible for that?
 - 5 A. There was a replenishment department that was
- 16 responsible for replenishing both front-end and
- 17 pharmacy orders into the distribution centers.
- Q. And so someone in the replenishment department
- 19 would be more familiar with the process than you?
- 20 A. Yes.

24

- MR. PIFKO: We've been going about another
- 22 hour, and I think it's around noon, if you guys
- want to take another break.
 - MS. McENROE: So it's 11:45. We can break now
- and take a short lunch or if you want to keep
- - going for a little while and then break for lunch.
- MR. VITALE: Yeah, let's break for lunch now.
 MR. PIFKO: Let's take a short break now.
- 4 MS. McENROE: So take a short break now and
- 5 then come back, yeah.
- 6 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record at 11:45
- 7 a.m.
- 8 (Brief recess was taken.)
- 9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On the record, 11:59 a.m.
- 10 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Are you familiar with the audit process with
- 12 respect to DEA audits in the distribution centers?
- 13 A. Generally --
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Generally, yes.
- 16 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Was that something that you had familiarity
- 18 with when you were general manager of a distribution
- 19 center?
- 20 A. If you're asking whether I had involvement
- 21 with it as a general manager, no, because we didn't
- have a pharmacy department; but by the time I became a
- 23 general manager, you know, I had worked -- for Eckerd's
- 24 for 30 years, so we -- Eckerd had undergone DEA audits,
- so I was generally familiar with it from that.

- 1 Q. And when you were VP of logistics, did you
- 2 have any high-level involvement with audits?
- 3 A. With DEA audits?
- 4 Q. Yes.
- 5 A. Yes. We were -- again, you know, my area was
- ⁶ a resource to the distribution center. So when the DEA
- 7 came for an audit, they would let my area know; and, if
- 8 there were any -- you know, occasionally there were
- 9 reporting needs or things that they would need to have
- 10 run and data generated that my department would help
- 11 coordinate.
- But yes, we -- we were always aware when there
- 13 was a DEA audit, and we got feedback at the end of
- 14 those audits and, you know, we were -- gosh, you know,
- 15 I was always pleased to see we did very well with those
- 16 DEA audits.
- Q. Do you know if, as part of the audit process,
- 18 the DEA evaluated the company's suspicious order
- 19 monitoring efforts?
- A. Actually, I know that they did an audit at the
- 21 Perryman distribution center, and at the conclusion of
- 22 that, in the exit discussion, they complimented us on
- 23 our process to manage suspicious orders or excessive
- 24 orders. So yes, they did evaluate it as a part of
- 25 that.

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- 1 Q. Do you know the rough time frame that that
- 2 occurred?
- 3 A. Again, I'd say, you know, 2012, '13. I -- you
- 4 know, it's been several years ago now, but I -- I know
- 5 that we had the audit and that occurred, so --
- 6 Q. Do you recall who -- the names of the DEA
- 7 officers who conducted the audit?
- 8 A. No, I wouldn't have been, you know, involved
- 9 again at that level. We got -- we got feedback of the
- 10 results, but I -- I wasn't there when the audit took
- 11 place, and I wasn't there for the exit interview. So
- 12 we got feedback from it, but I didn't participate; and
- 13 no, I don't know the names of the officers that were
- 14 involved in that.
- Q. During your tenure as VP of logistics, did you
- 16 ever meet with any DEA agents?
- 17 A. I did. Yes, I did.
- Q. Okay. When was the first such occasion that
- 19 you met with DEA agents?
- 20 A. There was only one occasion, as I recall, and
- 21 it was very early in my tenure in that position,
- 22 probably in 2009. We actually visited the DEA's
- 23 headquarters in Washington.
- You know, I described to you the cross-dock
- process that we had where we had the cross-dock cages

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- 1 that were approved by the DEA for us to bring product
- 2 from a pharmacy DC and merge it with the orders at the
- 3 front-end DC.
- We had to get permission from the DEA to
- 5 extend that process to the Eckerd DCs that were --
- 6 Rite-Aid already had permission from the DEA to do
- 7 that. When the Eckerd acquisition took place and now
- 8 Rite-Aid owned the Eckerd DCs, you have to get explicit
- 9 permission at every location.
- So we had to get permission from them to do
- 11 the cross-dock process, and so I was part of a group
- 2 that went to DEA headquarters in Washington and met
- with them. So that was the only time that I met with
- any DEA agents, and that was the subject.
- Q. Do you remember the name of the agents that
- 16 you met with then?
- 17 A. I do not.
- 18 Q. To your knowledge, while you were at Rite-Aid,
- 19 was the company ever subject to any enforcement actions
- 20 by the DEA?
- 21 A. Not that I know of. I -- there's none that I
- 22 was aware of, so --
- Q. Let's talk about theft for a moment. From
- time to time would you have issues with theft?
- MS. McENROE: Objection to form.

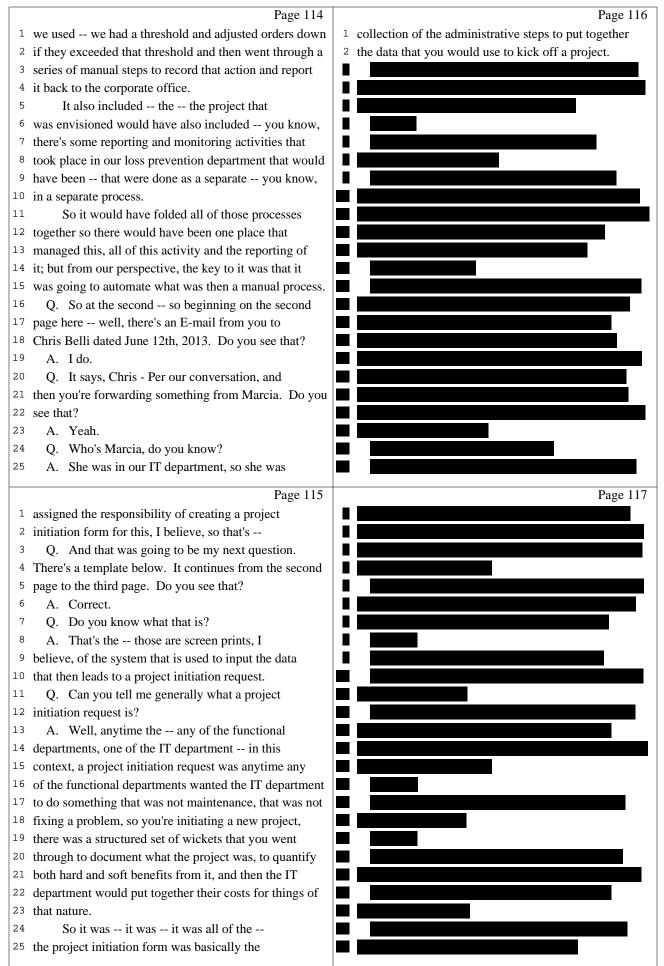
- THE WITNESS: You're talking about in general?
- 2 Certainly, there was product stolen from our
- 3 distribution centers.
- 4 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 5 Q. And specifically with respect to controlled
- 6 substances.
- 7 A. I don't ever remember there being an incident
- 8 that I was aware of where we had theft of any
- 9 controlled substances. You know, the physical security
- 10 was much greater for those products.
- The process by which the associates were
- 12 vetted and allowed to go into the cage and to
- 13 participate in that activity was higher. They had a --
- 14 you know, a background, you know, investigation was
- 15 done and things of that nature. So while we -- you
- 16 know, it would be disingenuous for me to say we never
- 17 had any front-end product stolen from a DC.
- 18 I'm -- I'm not aware of any incidents that --
- certainly I'm not aware of where we had any controlledsubstances stolen.
- Q. Pardon me. We're having some technical difficulties in locating the document.
- While he's looking for that, are you familiar
- 24 with the idea of conducting due diligence on an order
 - that's deemed to be suspicious or potentially

1 suspicious?

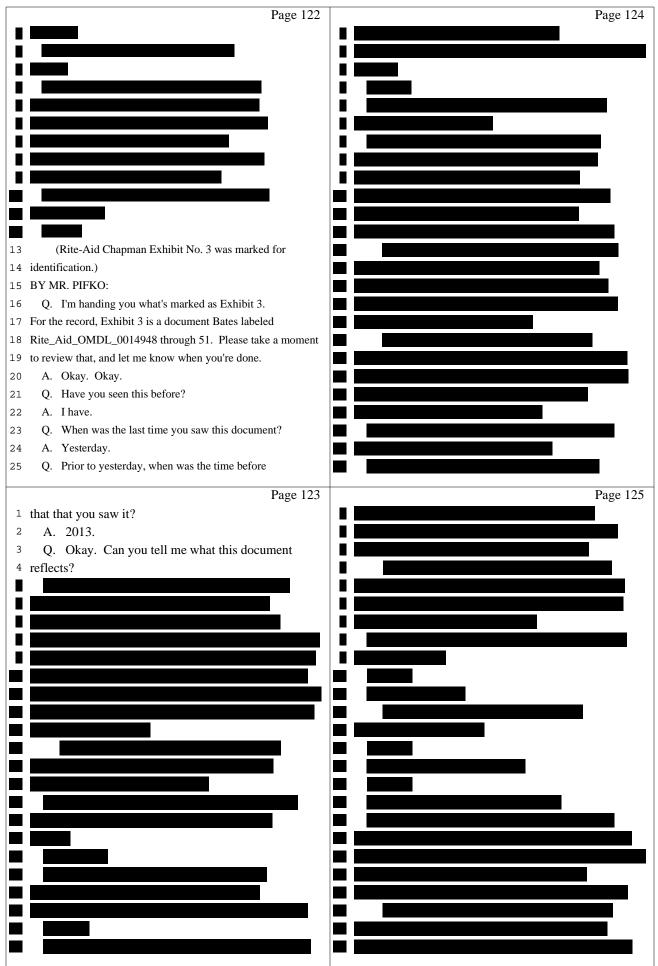
- 2 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure exactly what you
- mean by "due diligence." I know that we have a 4
- 5 responsibility as a registrant to take steps to
- 6 avoid diversion, you know, to ensure diversion
- 7 doesn't take place, and to also ensure suspicious
- 8 orders are not filled, and we don't take -- but if
- 9 you're -- I'm not sure exactly what you're
- 10 referring to by the phrase "due diligence" with
- 11 that.
- 12 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 13 Q. Are you familiar with the idea that if an
- order is potentially suspicious, there's a duty to
- investigate the order to alleviate those suspicions?
- 16 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 18 BY MR. PIFKO:
- 19 Q. To your knowledge, does Rite-Aid have a
- 20 process to -- when you were VP of logistics, did
- 21 Rite-Aid have a process to conduct such investigations?
- 22 A. When -- our responsibility in the distribution
- 23 centers would have -- would have been, if we identified
- 24 anything that we felt was a suspicious order, we would
- 25 have reported it to the government affairs department.
- 1 They would have then worked with the loss prevention
- 2 department and us, if necessary, to do any
- 3 investigation.
- I'm not aware of that ever -- I don't recall
- 5 that ever occurring. That's what would have taken
- 6 place.
- 7 Q. If you -- if there was such an investigation,
- would you have been involved in it?
- 9 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Potentially, but not with
- 11 certainty.
- 12 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Is there a name of somebody within the
- government affairs department who would be responsible
- 15 for heading up an investigation like that?
- 16 A. If we had identified something that we felt
- 17 was suspicious, we -- or potentially suspicious, we
- 18 would have contacted Janet Hart.
- 19 Q. Do you know if there would be any
- 20 documentation of a request for an investigation to
- 21 occur?
- 22 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: I -- I don't know of that ever 23
- 24 taking place.
- 25 BY MR. PIFKO:

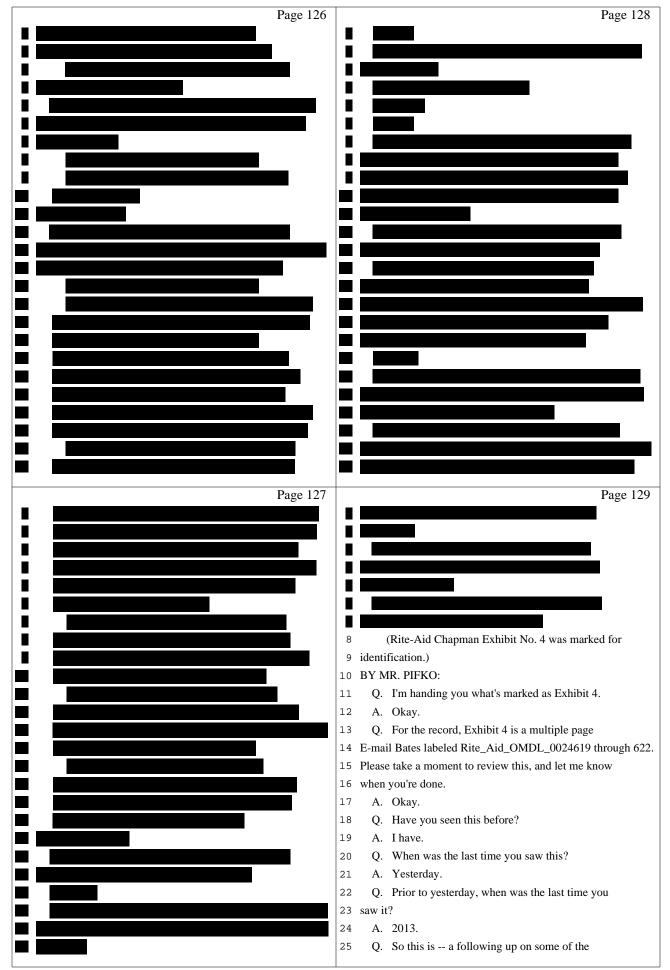
- Q. So you don't believe that there ever was a
- ² request to conduct an investigation?
- A. I -- no, I didn't say that. I said I'm not
- 4 aware of it ever taking place. I don't know.
- Q. Okay.
- A. It did not take place, to the best of my
- knowledge.
- Q. If an order was deemed to be potentially
- suspicious, would that be documented anywhere?
- 10 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.
- 11 THE WITNESS: There would have been
- 12 communication to Janet Hart; and I'm sure, you
- 13 know, certainly based on the documents that were
- 14 able to be produced, I'm sure it would have been
- 15 documented in an E-mail or, you know, some
- 16 communication, so --
- 17 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. Do you know if there was any sort of
- spreadsheet or anything where those communications
- would have been maintained?
 - A. I'm not aware of any spreadsheet; and again, I
- 22 don't -- I don't recall it ever taking place.
- 23 Q. All right. I'm handing you what's been marked
- 24 as Exhibit 2.
- 25 (Rite-Aid Chapman Exhibit No. 2 was marked for

- Page 111
- 1 identification.)
- 2 BY MR. PIFKO:
- Q. For the record, Exhibit 2 is a multipage
- 4 E-mail, Bates labeled Rite_Aid_OMDL_0038075 to 77.
- 5 Take a moment to review that, and let me know when
- 6 you're done.
- A. Okay. Okay.
- Q. All right. So this -- have you seen this
- 9 before?
- 10 A. I have.
- 11 Q. When was the last time you saw this?
- 12 A. Yesterday.
- 13 Q. And before seeing it yesterday, when was the
- 14 last time you saw it?
- 15 A. 2013.
- 16 Q. All right. The subject line of this series of
- 17 E-mails is Suspicious Order Monitoring Project.
- Actually, it says 5046 Suspicious Order Monitoring
- 19 Project. Do you see that?
- 20 A. I do.
- 21 Q. What is the Suspicious Order Monitoring
- 22 Project?
- 23 A. It was a project that was conceptualized to --
- from the distribution center's perspective to replace
- the manual activities that I mentioned to you, whereby

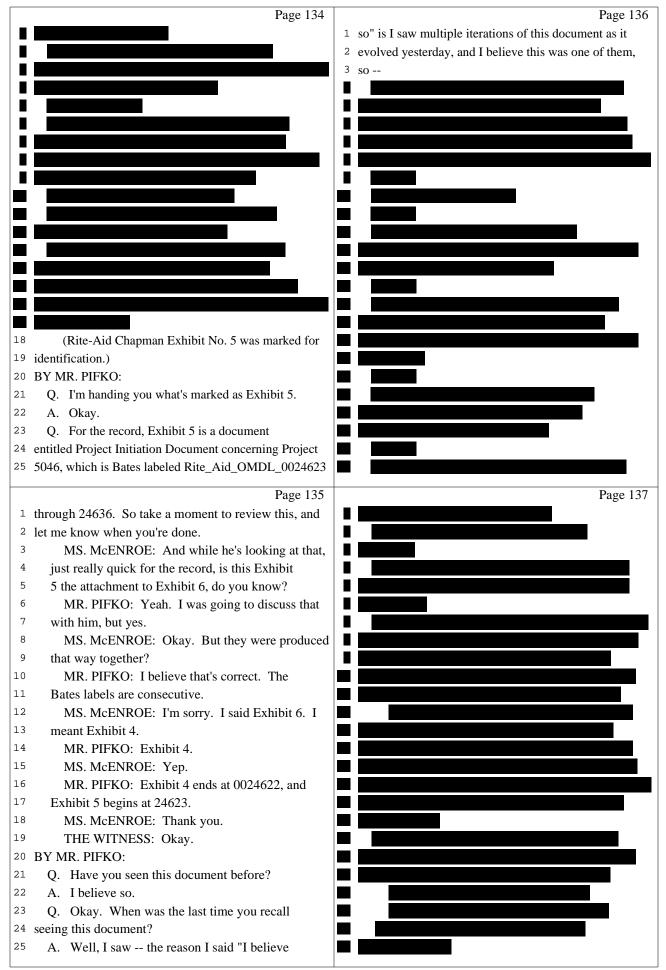




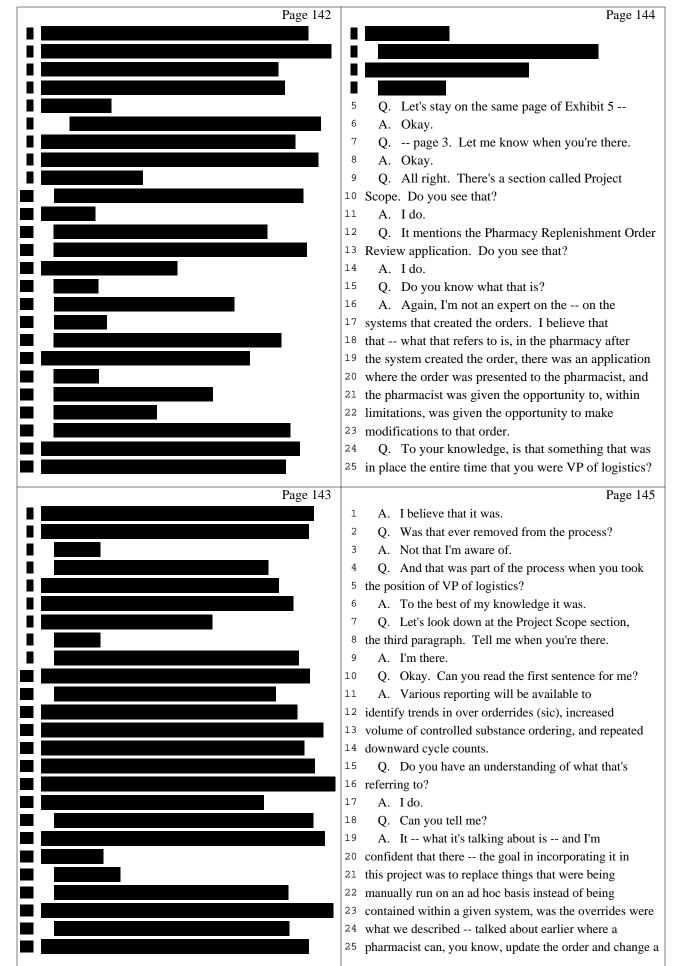












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1 quantity.

2 The increased volume of controlled substance

3 ordering, we just see if there was a trend where there

was a controlled substance ordering; and repeated

downward cycle counts, a cycle count refers to doing an

6 inventory verification of your on-hand balance and

physically counting what you have on hand and comparing

it to what the system shows that you have on hand.

9 So when it talks about repeated downward cycle

10 counts, it's if someone repeatedly changed the, in the

11 store, changed the on-hand balance to a lower number.

12 Q. So when this talks about repeated downward

13 cycle counts, that's the situation where there's

14 repeated occasions of someone in the store lowering the

15 reported inventory at a particular location in the

16 computer system?

17 A. That's what I would take this to mean, yes.

18 Q. And did you understand that that was

19 reflective of any concern?

20 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.

21 THE WITNESS: I have -- I would have no idea.

22 This, you know -- no, I don't understand -- I do

23 not have any understanding specific to that, and I

24 probably wouldn't because this is talking about

25 management of the pharmacies in the stores that I 1 BY MR. PIFKO:

O. You talked about a manual collection of

3 certain data. Do you know if that -- that data was

collected manually prior to this?

A. Of my own knowledge, no. That wouldn't have

6 been -- this is referring to activities that would have

taken place in our loss prevention department. So I

can tell you, you know, generally I'm quite confident

that they did a lot of reporting and analysis to ensure

that we were in compliance with everything we needed to

be in compliance with, but I wasn't involved in it, so

I can't speak authoritatively on exactly what they did.

Q. How about identifying trends and order

overrides, are you aware of any manual reporting of

trends and order overrides that occurred prior to this

16 time?

13

17 A. I know that they could and did generate

reports of manual overrides, controlled substances and

non-controlled substances, you know, other items as

well. So I know that that took place, but again, that

wasn't part of my area of responsibility.

22 Q. Do you know who within the company would have

23 received those reports?

A. I -- I don't. It would have been -- again,

this would have been a function of the loss prevention

Page 147

1 didn't have any responsibilities for and wasn't

2 involved in.

³ BY MR. PIFKO:

Q. Do you have an understanding about why that's

5 something that was being included in the reporting as

part of this project?

A. I do.

8

16

20

22

Q. Okay. What's your understanding of that?

A. Well, as mentioned earlier, the ordering

10 system takes into account the demand, which is driven

11 by your usage or your consumption of a product, and

12 your on-hand balance.

13 So if someone reduces the on-hand balance, it

will result in an increased order from the distribution

¹⁵ center. So that's what this is referring to.

Q. Okay. And do you have an understanding about

why the company wanted to have reporting on that

18 parameter?

19 MS. McENROE: Objection to form.

THE WITNESS: Again, this isn't my area of

21 responsibility, but I'm -- I'm sure that they

would be interested in seeing if the same item was

23 adjusted down, thereby causing a -- an increase in

24 the inventory, in the shipments of that item to a

25 given store. Page 149

Page 148

1 department, and they would have worked with store op --

2 store pharmacy operations in dealing with it, so --

Q. How about increased volume of controlled

4 substances ordering, do you see that?

A. I do.

Q. Do you have an understanding that there was a

manual reporting of that type of information prior to

this time?

A. I would expect that there was, so --

10 Q. But you don't know either way?

11 A. Again, that wasn't my area of responsibility,

12 so --

13 Q. You've never seen a report concerning

increased volume of controlled substances ordering at a

particular store?

16 A. I don't ever remember seeing a report of

increased volume of controlled substances ordering from

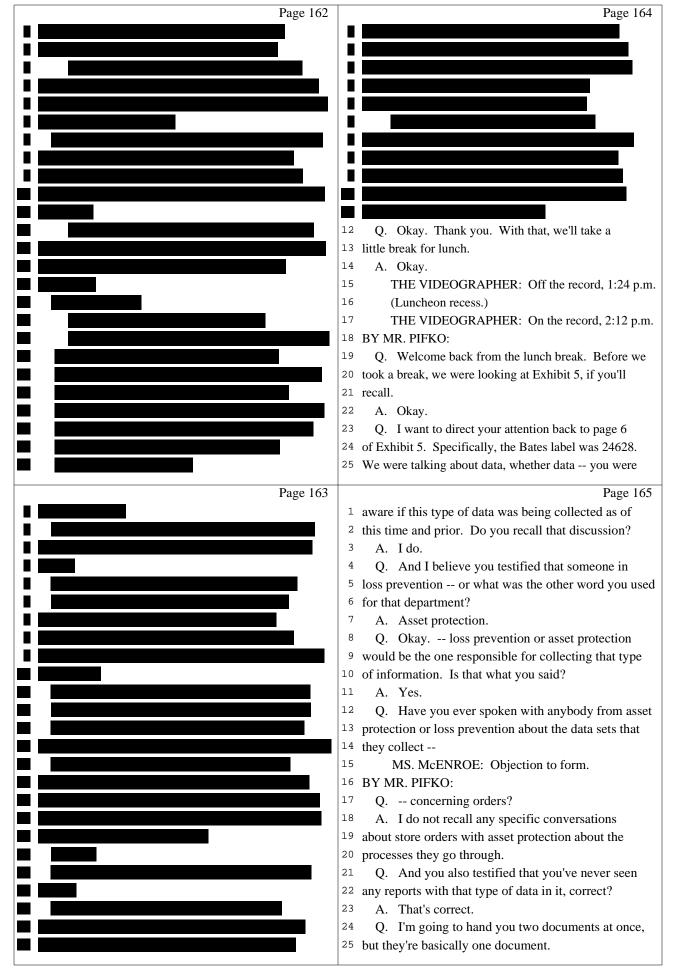
a particular store.

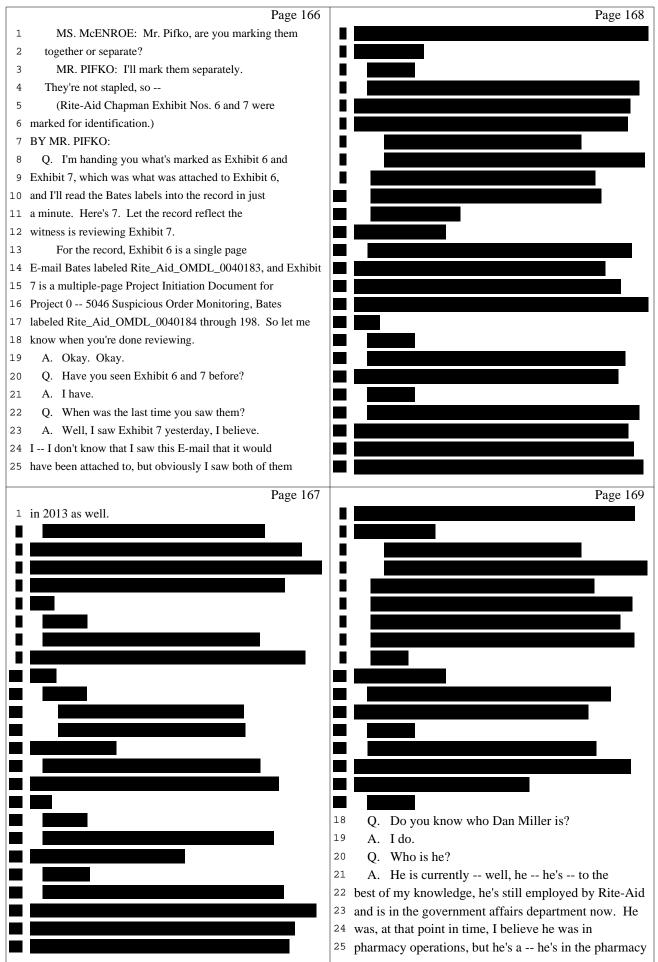












Page 170 Page 172 1 department, so --1 involved in. Q. Is there a pharmacy -- you mentioned the idea ² BY MR. PIFKO: 3 of pharmacy operations earlier in deposition when we Q. So that's helpful. Can you explain the 4 were talking about distribution centers. Is there a hierarchy of the reporting structure for pharmacists? pharmacy operations department or division at the MS. McENROE: Objection to form. 6 6 corporate offices? THE WITNESS: Typically, there was -- and let 7 MS. McENROE: Objection to form. me preface this by saying there are -- there have 8 THE WITNESS: Yes, there are -- there is a 8 been changes that took place, you know, to some 9 9 form -- a pharmacy operations department, and I degree in the time that I worked for Rite-Aid; but 10 may not be using the title that they use for their 10 typically, there's a pharmacist -- you know, a 11 department, but there is a department that serves 11 pharmacist in charge at a store. 12 12 that function. That pharmacist or the pharmacy operation 13 13 BY MR. PIFKO: reports to a pharmacy district manager. A -- or a 14 14 Q. Who was the head of that function when you group of pharmacist stores reported to a pharmacy 15 15 were VP of logistics? district manager. A group of pharmacy district 16 A. Well, Dan -- it may have been Dan. I can't 16 managers reported to a pharmacy vice president and 17 17 swear to the exact reporting. I don't -- you know, I then that reported in to the corporate office. 18 mean, there's multiple levels of pharmacy BY MR. PIFKO: 19 responsibilities that all report into the senior vice 19 Q. And when you say the corporate offices, you ²⁰ president of pharmacy. So I -- I believe pharmacy 20 mean at Camp Hill? 21 21 operations would have been Dan Miller at that point, A. I do mean at Camp Hill. 22 but I'm -- I -- I can't swear to that. 22 Q. Let's go to the next page of Exhibit 7. Do Q. Do you have an understanding of the type of 23 you see there's a bunch of changes that are reflected 24 activities that are managed within the pharmacy 24 here as well? ²⁵ operations department? A. I do. Page 171 Page 173 Q. Are you familiar with any of these changes? A. I'm familiar with at least some of them. Q. Okay. Can you tell me the ones that you are 2 MS. McENROE: Objection to form. 3 3 familiar with? THE WITNESS: I -- I can read them, yes, so -and I understand what they mean. A. If there's an activity that involved BY MR. PIFKO: 5 pharmacists at the store and needed coordination across 6 all divisions, typically the pharmacy operations 7 department would be -- would be the focal point --8 would be the one that would initiate and manage those 9 changes. 10 So it's to manage, you know, pharmacy 11 activities commonly across all divisions and stores. 12 Q. If there is discipline against a pharmacist, 13 is that the division or department who would handle it? 14 MS. McENROE: Objection to form. 15 THE WITNESS: I don't know the answer to that, 16 in the sense that it wasn't my area of 17 responsibility, but I would expect that it would 18 be handled -- discipline of pharmacists would be 19 handled at the local level where a pharmacist 20 would have reported to a pharmacy district 21 manager, and a pharmacy district manager would 22 have responded -- reported to a pharmacy vice 23 president out in the field is what I would 24 anticipate would be the answer to that question;

but again, that isn't something I would have been

25

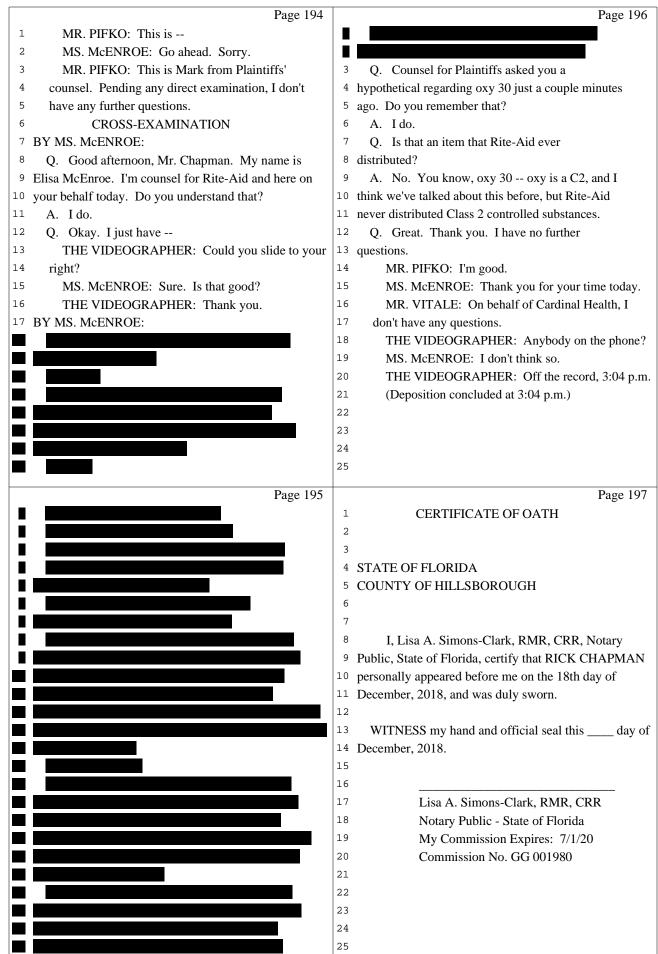












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1 2	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	
3	STATE OF FLORIDA	
4	COUNTY OF PINELLAS	
5	COUNTI OF TINELLAS	
]	I, Lisa A. Simons-Clark, Registered Merit	
6	Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, certify that I	
	was authorized to and did stenographically report the	
7	deposition of RICHARD CHAPMAN; that a review of the	
'	transcript was requested; and that the transcript is a	
8	true and complete record of my stenographic notes.	
9	and templete record or my stemograpme notes.	
10	I further certify that I am not a relative,	
	employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties,	
11	nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'	
	attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I	
12	financially interested in the action.	
13	·	
14	Dated this day of December, 2018.	
15	•	
16		
17	Lisa A. Simons-Clark, RMR, CRR	
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	Page 199	
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1	ERRATA SHEET	
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